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THE JOURNAL OF PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION

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EDITORIAL NOTE

In a democratic polity, the Parliament is the supreme legislative institution representing the sovereign will of the people. It is in the Chambers of Parliament that the people's urges, hopes, aspirations and expectations find their resonance through their elected representatives. It is on the floor of this august institution that the Executive is held accountable for its acts of commission and omission. To enable the people to witness as to how their representatives are highlighting their problems and ventilating their grievances, telecasting of parliamentary proceedings acts as an effective interface between the people and the Parliament.

With a view to imparting transparency and accountability to the functioning of Parliament and to bring it closer to the people, two separate dedicated satellite channels were launched in December 2004 for telecasting live the entire proceedings of the two Houses of Parliament nationwide. Going a step further, the Lok Sabha Television Channel (LSTV) was launched on 11 May 2006. The Channel which has become a 24-hour channel since 24 July 2006, gives extensive coverage to the proceedings of the House and arranges discussions by the subject experts on important issues. It also telecasts value added programmes. Parliamentarians are invited to participate in the programmes on current topics and through this channel they get an opportunity to express the viewpoint of their respective parties on important political, economic and international issues. We include in this issue of the *Journal* a Short Note on the Lok Sabha Television Channel.

Democracy has all along been an integral part of India's past. Parliamentary traditions and democratic heritage have their roots dating back to ancient times. The growth of modern parliamentary institutions in India can be traced to our struggle against the foreign rule and an urge for establishing free democratic institutions. On the initiative of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, a state-of-the-art Parliament Museum set up in the Parliament Library Building was inaugurated by the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on 14 August 2006. The Vice-President of India, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Union Ministers, leaders of political parties and members of Parliament attended the function.

The Museum has been designed to serve as a hi-tech 'story-telling

Museum', depicting the continuum of democratic ethos and institutional development in India. It is different from other Museums in the sense that it is not a Museum of objects but of events. The visitors to the Museum are treated to a speaking display of Indian democracy. Various facets of our democratic tradition from ancient India and different events associated with our Freedom Movement come alive before them with multi-layered graphics and multi-vision presentation, with sound-and-light animation, video projection and computer multi-media with audio effects. We include in this issue of the *Journal* a Short Note on the Parliament Museum.

In continuing our endeavour to honour the selfless sacrifices of the stalwarts who have contributed immensely to the national cause, the statues and portraits of the illustrious personalities are installed from time to time in the Parliament House Complex. On 23 August 2006, the statues of Swami Vivekananda and Sri Aurobindo were unveiled in the precincts of the Parliament House by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, respectively. In another function on 24 August 2006, the statue of Devi Ahilyabai Holkar was unveiled in the courtyard of Parliament Library Building by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. The Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh, Union Ministers and members of Parliament graced both the functions. We include in this issue of the *Journal* Short Notes on unveiling of the statues of Swami Vivekananda, Sri Aurobindo and Devi Ahilyabai Holkar in the Parliament House Complex.

We also carry in this issue our other regular features, *viz.* Parliamentary Events and Activities, Privilege Issues, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Documents of Constitutional and Parliamentary Interest, Sessional Review, Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest and Appendices.

It has been our constant endeavour to make the *Journal* more useful and informative. We would greatly welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and all others interested in the study of parliamentary democratic system.

—P.D.T. Achary
Editor

1

ADDRESSES AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE PARLIAMENT MUSEUM IN PARLIAMENT LIBRARY BUILDING

On 14 August 2006, the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam inaugurated the hi-tech Parliament Museum in the Parliament Library Building in the distinguished presence of eminent dignitaries and invitees. On the occasion, the President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam; the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat; the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee addressed the august gathering.

We reproduce below the text of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

–Editor

ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Up-Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Pradhan Mantriji, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament, Representatives of the Media and Friends:

I deem it a great honour to welcome the honourable President, the honourable Chairman, Rajya Sabha, the honourable Prime Minister and this distinguished gathering at the inauguration of the Parliament Museum set up in the Parliamentary Library Building. We are grateful to you all for making it convenient to grace this occasion.

When this beautiful Parliament Library Building was constructed, space was allocated in the building for setting up a Parliament Museum. On my assumption of Office, when the proposal for a Museum came before me, I felt that we should try to set up a Museum which will truly represent the evolution of our country's democratic set up and reflect our heritage. Thereafter, we approached Dr. Saroj Ghose, one of the most well-known authorities in this field, who has been the President of the Paris-based International Council of Museums, set up by UNESCO, and who has been responsible for setting up the famed Science City Complex in Kolkata and the Kolkata Museum, with the idea and he came up with a project profile in no time. The subsequent presentation

of the Museum scheme by Dr. Ghose before the honourable Leaders of different Parties in Parliament, at a meeting I convened, was well-received and the blueprint and the script for the Museum also received the approval of the honourable Leaders. On that basis, Dr. Saroj Ghose, representing the Kolkata Museum, has set up our Museum with the help of the Officers and Staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, with full technical assistance from the Kolkata Museum. I am grateful to all the honourable Leaders for their kind cooperation and full support to the idea.

A Parliamentary Museum, in a country like ours whose democratic tradition goes back to the ancient times, has a special significance. It is expected to present before the visitors the evolution and success of our democratic experiments, of our freedom struggle, and, more importantly, highlight the structure and the characteristics of the supreme legislative institution of the country. A visitor to the Museum would go back with an insight into some of the most important aspects of our democratic heritage.

The Parliament Museum has been designed to serve as a hi-tech 'story-telling museum', depicting the continuum of our democratic ethos and institutional development. It is different from the other Museums in the sense that it is not a Museum of objects but of events. The main aspects of our democratic and parliamentary heritage are told with the help of walk-through period settings, with sound-light-video synchronization, large screen interactive computer multi-media, and immersive visualization with multi-screen panoramic projection, virtual reality and animatronics. The Museum is also equipped with a resource centre with a fully computerized textual and visual information bank.

The visitors to the Museum will be treated to a 'speaking display' of Indian democracy. Various facets of our democratic tradition from ancient India and different events associated with our Freedom Movement will come alive before them with multi-layered graphics and multi-vision presentation, with sound-and-light animation, video projection and computer multi-media with audio effects.

I am sure, the distinct features of the Museum will be found very informative by the visitors, giving them an insight into the history of the development of political institutions in India, about the struggles and sacrifices that had gone into the process of that evolution and of the great men and women who provided leadership of our movement for freedom. That understanding, I hope, will help particularly the new generation to aspire for reaching further heights and inspire them to

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, addressing the distinguished gathering

The Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh addressing the distinguished gathering

The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat addressing the gathering

The President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam addressing the gathering

participate enthusiastically in the process of nation-building and for consolidating the gains of democracy in the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Padmashri Dr. Saroj Ghose for his tireless efforts in executing this project within a very demanding time-frame. Dr. Ghose, who retired as the Director-General of the National Council of Science Museum (NCSM) has been instrumental in the conceptual design, script and exhibit development of the Museum. In this effort, he was ably assisted by Shri D. Basu and Shri Amit Sarkar, both of whom had also worked in the National Council of Science Museum. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Shri Basu and Shri Sarkar as well. I would also like to compliment the Officers and Staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and other allied agencies for their dedicated efforts and support in executing the project expeditiously and efficiently. The Lok Sabha Secretariat is working out the details for facilitating access to the Museum for the general public, especially the students and our young citizens very soon.

With these words, I once again welcome the distinguished gathering on this momentous occasion. I am hopeful that this endeavour will go a long way in imparting an informed perception of our constitutional and parliamentary heritage to the visitors to this Museum which, in turn, will further promote our commitment to democratic and parliamentary ideals.

Thank you very much.

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, DR. MANMOHAN SINGH

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Up Rashtrapatiji, Respected Speaker Sir, Honourable Members of Parliament, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am truly delighted to be present here today at the inauguration of the Parliamentary Museum on the eve of the 60th Independence Day. It is a splendid Museum that will portray the history and living traditions of our unique democracy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of a grateful nation, I thank you for having conceived this idea. This is a magnificent gift to our nation on the eve of our 60th Independence Day. Tomorrow we enter the 60th year of our Independence. In these six decades, India has emerged as a great and vibrant democracy. Never before, in the history of the world,

have a billion people voluntarily sought their salvation from the legacy of poverty, ignorance and disease through a system of representative governance that has provided strong protection to individual rights and freedom. By showcasing this magnificent history of our democracy, this Museum celebrates the success of our efforts.

I am happy that the Museum has a section on our freedom struggle. The views of Bapuji, Dr. Ambedkar, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and the many architects of our democracy reflect the values and principles of our democracy as envisioned by the founding fathers of our Republic.

One of the fundamental objectives of our democracy has been the attempt to make it inclusive and representative of the diversity of India. In this context, I hope we can work together to realize the goal of increasing the participation of women in our Parliament. This Museum or Archives should have a separate section devoted to the magnificent role of our women in the functioning of our democracy. It should also have a section on Parliament's role in social and economic empowerment of the weaker sections and minorities.

In one of his writings, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had said:

> "A Museum is a collection of all kinds of things of beauty or things of utility from the past and present. It should convey to us some idea of the larger scheme of life. It should ultimately lead to or at least help in the understanding of the present scheme of things."

I sincerely hope these words will guide the authorities of this Museum in building a unique institution of our heritage that will record, reflect and celebrate the achievements of the fountainhead of our democracy.

Sir, with these words, let me congratulate both the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Rajya Sabha Secretariat for their invaluable effort in putting up this magnificent Museum. I hope that particularly our children and youth will be encouraged to visit it because it is the younger generation who must water the plant of our democracy. This Museum should inspire them to do so.

I congratulate all those associated with the Museum and wish it all success.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA, SHRI BHAIRON SINGH SHEKHAWAT

Honourable Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Pradhan Mantriji, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Namaskar, Good evening.

It is an honour for me to be present on this grand occasion. The magnificent Parliament Museum inaugurated today by the honourable President in indeed unique. It gives a panoramic view of the evolution of our democracy through various phases, traversing several centuries. This Museum would admirably serve the objective of effectively showcasing our rich democratic heritage. I greet and compliment Shri Somnathji for this very commendable and thoughtful initiative.

Friends, democratic ethos has been a constant guiding force of our civilization and culture. India has been home to some of the most hallowed and ancient institutions of democracy. Mutual tolerance, harmony, peaceful co-existence and respect for rights and liberties of the individual have constituted the core of our democratic philosophy. Cherished as the ultimate aim of good governance, the ideal of people's welfare, *Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah*, has inspired our philosophy and thought process throughout the ages. I am glad to see that the rich democratic heritage of our country has been so creatively and tastefully displayed in this Museum. This will surely catch the fancy of the visitors especially the youth. It will take them through a voyage of those glorious and tumultuous days and make them experience the fervour of those times. The highlights of roles and ideas of our great national leaders, different stages of our constitutional development as well as functioning of our parliamentary democracy projected in the Museum will infuse in our younger generation a sense of commitment to the cause of democracy, as also enlighten them on democracy as a system of governance in the present era of globalization to promote people's welfare and development in all parts of the world.

Friends, today is also the eve of our 60th Independence Day. I am reminded of the famous words of our first Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru who, on the eve of attainment of Independence in August 1947, had said:

> "Long years ago, we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge... the pledge to dedicate oneself to the service of India and her people... to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind."

Undoubtedly, our country has progressed a lot towards redeeming this pledge. It is a matter of pride that working within the democratic framework of governance, India is emerging as a front-ranking nation marching ahead with sustainable growth and development. We have distinction of being the largest democracy. We have set up example before the world of successfully sustaining our basic unity along with the diversity of cultures, religions and linguistic groups. Our all round achievements have been significant and make us all very proud. However, our pledge still remains to be redeemed in full measure. We are faced with the challenges of achieving balanced all-inclusive economic growth and good governance. Our 26 crore brethren are still under the shackles of poverty, hunger and insecurity, thus denied of their fundamental right to live with dignity. Only the programmes for growth and development aimed at their uplift and empowerment would provide a strong fifth pillar of strength to the citadel of our democracy. Besides, important issues of concern like population stabilization, electoral and judicial reforms and corruption-free governance need urgent focus of action. That alone will deepen the roots of our democracy. That alone will sustain the people's faith and confidence in democracy as an effective and efficient system of governance to promote their welfare.

Today, on the eve of the Independence Day, one is also reminded of our long struggle for Independence which is replete with unbelievable heroic sacrifices and deeds of valour by freedom fighters in different parts of the country; each such site is a holy pilgrimage for every Indian. Next year we shall be celebrating the 150th year of the beginning of our Freedom Struggle in 1857. The long period from 1857 to 1947 is the precious heritage of our unique struggle for freedom, democracy and human rights not only for the people of India but for the people all over the world who had been suffering under the subjugation of colonial and imperialist forces. On this occasion, I would urge honourable Prime Minister that we set up a museum of our National Freedom Struggle: 1857-1947 which will be the lighthouse to guide and inspire our youth and future generations to preserve the hard earned freedom, and motivate them for building up a strong and fully developed nation worthy of the dreams of the freedom fighters.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I once again compliment the honourable Speaker for this very commendable initiative. I also compliment the endeavour and dedication of all those who have been associated with the setting up of this Museum. I am sure, this grand Parliament Museum will instil in the new generation a feeling of respect for

democracy as a system of governance as also for our rich democratic legacy and tradition.

Thank you, Namaskar.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM

Friends, Good Evening to all of you. My greetings to you for the 60th Independence Day of our Nation.

Honourable Vice-President, Honourable Prime Minister of India, Honourable Shri Somnath Chatterjee, the Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members of Parliament;

I am indeed delighted to participate in the inauguration of the high-tech Parliament Museum depicting the continuum of democratic heritage in India. My greetings to the honourable Speaker, the honourable Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the honourable Prime Minister and the honourable Members of Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, distinguished guests and participants.

Subsequent to my two-member team study, I just now went around the Museum, and saw its unique features for the first time. I could immediately see how Dr. Saroj–with his vision, sensitivity, grasp of history, breadth of concept and design, depth of understanding of both simple and complex technologies related to the Museum's development; his dedication and total commitment to the task–has transformed a part of our Parliament complex into this beautiful institution for culture and learning. Any great creation comes out of few stout minds, who love their tasks and the mission. We all owe both to Shri Somnathji and Dr. Saroj Ghose a debt of gratitude. More than us, it is the younger generation today, and perhaps for centuries to come, who will benefit by this valuable contribution dedicated to the history of democratic institutions in India, as it grows and blends into the future. The dynamic Museum has to convey some message to the world. Will the message be "Birth of Largest Democracy in the Planet?"

Many features of this Museum are impressive, and they deserve a special mention. For me, it was an educative, interesting and interactive experience. Firstly, the perfection and realism of all the FRP models of men, women, and artefacts and natural settings of their times was startling, especially in the model of the last meeting of the Constituent Assembly where I sat next to an earlier "President of India, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, I was transported into that setting of Parliament and it was a novel experience.

Secondly, the flow of historical events sensed by the designer of the Museum springs into life here, depicting the democratic Assemblies of ancient India, regal succession by election of those days, the edicts being carved on rocks and mission to Sri Lanka during the period of Asoka. It also depicts the people's participation, democratic practices in various periods and so many more displays. The democratic manner of functioning of Buddhist Council, the recreated period setting of Akbar's Court with audio altogether was a unique, beautiful experience.

Thirdly, the narration of a sound-light-video presentation on wide-curved screen was inspiring. I am sure the people, especially the children, who visit this Museum will find this feature an awesome and electrifying experience, particularly the flashes of the Quit India Movement, the various uprisings against the imperial occupying powers, of Mahatma Gandhi leading the masses into non-violent resistance to tyrannical alien rule, of Subhas Chandra Bose inspecting the Indian National Army, of the now famous Independence Day Address by Jawaharlal Nehru in Parliament, "Freedom at Midnight". All of these raised deep emotions as one sees patriots who lost their lives for us in their determined battle to win freedom from alien and totalitarian rule extending back to centuries.

Fourthly, the extensive use of high technologies to create 'virtual reality' and special audio-visual effects are the ultra-modern features of this Parliament Museum. I congratulate the designer and builders for their ingenuity that I am sure will be much appreciated by the public.

Friends, as we are about to celebrate the 60th Independence Day, it would be useful to look back a little into the history so beautifully depicted in this Museum. India's history is intimately tied to its geography. After the first pre-historic human settlements, complex and sophisticated cultures were established in India for 2,500 years. Thereafter, for the next 2,300 years, our country was repeatedly invaded and occupied in three waves for about 1,325 years across its land borders from Europe, West Asia and Central Asia. Then, the fourth wave arrived with the British and other European powers, lasting 227 years from across the seas.

The first freedom movement led by Chandragupta Maurya lasted 246 years; the second freedom movement led by Chandragupta II lasted 681 years. The third freedom movement, so beautifully depicted in this Parliament Museum, started only 60 years ago led by Mahatma Gandhi. What is important for us is to note that the Independence we are now celebrating is the result of the third freedom movement.

As the elders and leaders of our nation and society, we have to resolve that we shall work with great unity, and singular determination, with a vision to make our nation not only rich and prosperous, but above all, a safe nation, invulnerable for ever to invasion across its borders, on land, sea and air and further into history, to aggression from space.

In conclusion, I would like to make the following suggestions for enriching the vibrancy of this institution:

(a) Making this institution people friendly, so that all children below 17 years of age from various parts of the country are able to visit and see the good side of the politics and the democracy;

(b) Political Science has become an important subject of study in almost all our institutions of higher learning. Hence, I suggest that a "Political Vision Research Laboratory" may be established in this parliamentary institution, where at least ten young scholars will be continuously studying and analyzing the recorded discussions and debates, conceptualize the impact of decisions emerging from Parliament on socio-economic issues for practical application in our political processes;

(c) Analyzing the National Development Progress through application of science and technology in the three sectors of the economy namely agriculture, manufacturing and services. This should be related to the parliamentary proceedings which helps the Members of Parliament in enacting and updating the appropriate laws. Such an analysis should also relate the progressive decline in the percentage of people below poverty line from the time of Indian Independence and other dimensions of socio-economic progress. This will be called an "Economic Development Progress Laboratory";

(d) Creating a pre-induction training programme for all the members of Parliament, who are joining the Parliament for the first time and the members of the State Legislatures using the results of these two research programmes; and

(e) Suggesting to all NRIs and the participants of Pravasi Divas visiting the country every year to visit the institution and provide suggestions for its improvement and growth.

I wish the institution all the success in its mission of promoting democratic values by creating a tolerant environment for absorbing the multi-dimensional inputs from all participants and nurturing the growth of unified nationalism. I greet you all on the eve of the 60th Independence Day.

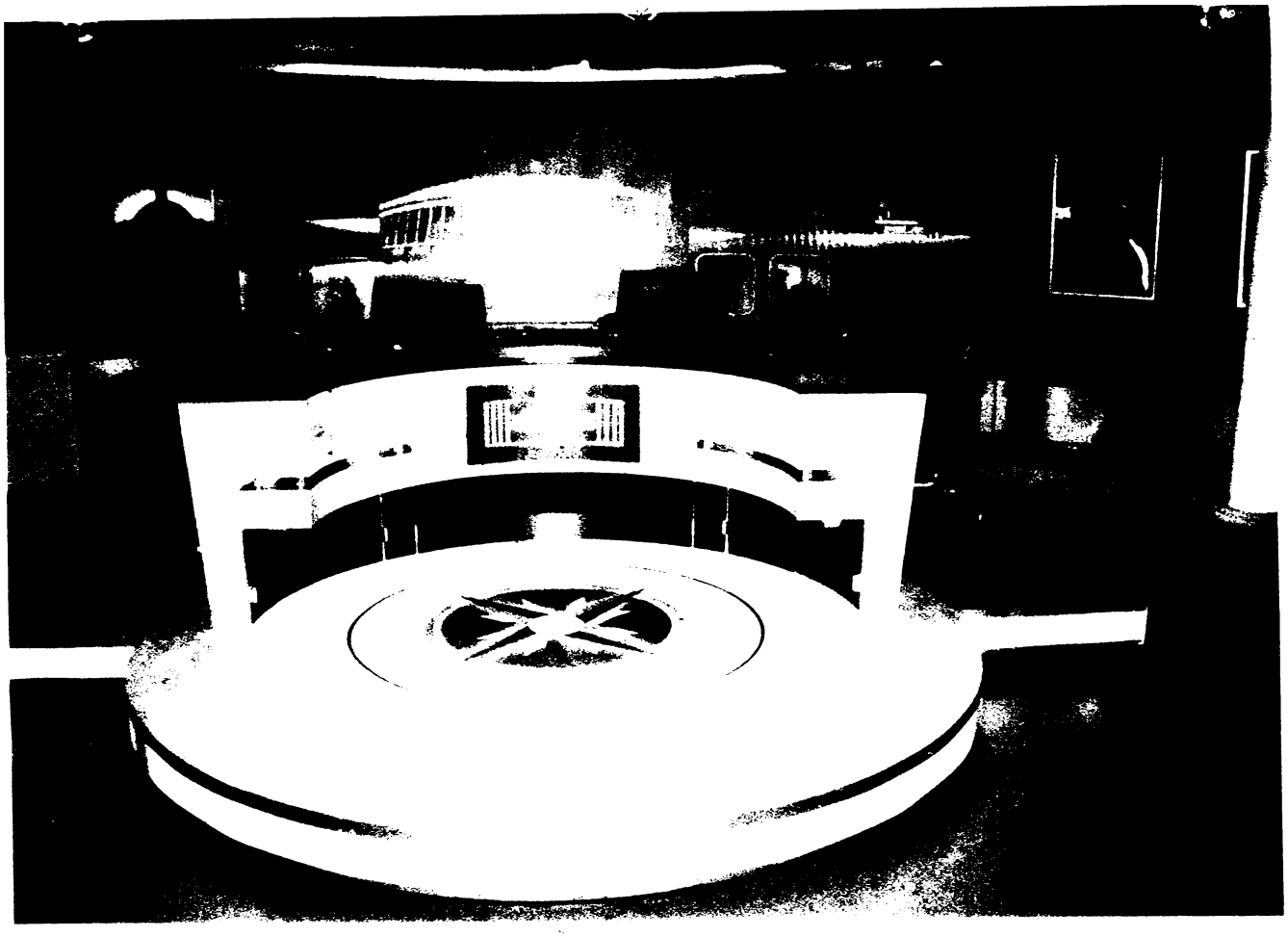
May God bless you all.

2

LOK SABHA TELEVISION CHANNEL

In many countries of the world, televising of parliamentary proceedings has helped in bringing the institution of Parliament nearer to the people. In India, a beginning in telecasting and broadcasting of the parliamentary proceedings was made with the Address by the President to the members of the two Houses assembled in the Central Hall on 20 December 1989. Since then, efforts have been made from time to time to provide a more comprehensive coverage of the proceedings by the electronic media for the benefit of the people. In a landmark development, in December 2004, two separate dedicated satellite channels were launched for telecasting live the entire proceedings of the two Houses of Parliament nationwide. Going a step further, Lok Sabha Television Channel (LSTV)–an independent Channel of Lok Sabha–was launched on 11 May 2006. This Channel has become a 24–hour channel since 24 July 2006. The Channel gives extensive coverage to the proceedings of the House and arranges discussions by the experts on important issues. The Channel also telecasts value added programmes. Parliamentarians are invited to participate in the programmes on current topics, providing them an opportunity to express the viewpoint of their respective parties on important political, economic and international issues. It also telecasts plays, cultural programmes, films and documentaries on heritage, beliefs, tradition, music and dance. Some of the interesting and informative programmes telecast on the channel are:

- **Today's Agenda**: The programme discusses the issues that are likely to come up during the day in the Lok Sabha. It also provides some background information on the Papers Laid on the Table of the House, various Bills, and other issues that are listed to come up during the day. There is also a segment wherein the anchors and journalists discuss the news highlights appearing in various newspapers, particularly with regard to Parliament.
- **Sansad Nama and House Highlights**: These programmes review the proceedings of the Lok Sabha during the lunch break and after the House rises for the day.
- **Awaaz Aap Ki/Street Talk**: This is a programme that combines



A view of the Lok Sabha Television Channel Studio set up in the Parliament Library Building

clips from Lok Sabha proceedings of the day and the reaction of the people on various issues discussed in the House.

- **Sansad Se Sadak Tak**: In this programme, a topic of relevance to the common man is taken up for discussion with MPs and the common man.
- **Public Forum**: In this programme, members from different sections of the society discuss issues affecting the common man. Each day from Monday to Friday, is reserved for a different segment: *viz.* Youth, Senior Citizens, Professionals, Trade Unions, and the Legal Fraternity.
- **Roving Camera**: It gives a round up of functions/events held in the Parliament House Complex.
- **Public Domain**: A weekly programme based on public issues thrown up in various lectures, seminars, etc. that take place in the capital.
- **Committee Compass**: This programme takes an in-depth look at the working of Parliamentary Committees, where the anchor and a journalist interview the Chairman or other representatives of the respective Committees.
- **Up Close and Personal**: The Programme is aimed at showing the different side of the lives of Members of Parliament, giving a peep into their personal and professional lives.
- **Policy Priorities**: This is a programme where Ministers of the Union Cabinet give details of the programmes being undertaken by their Ministries for the development of the country and their strategy to achieve the target of "India 2020".
- **State of Culture**: A reportage and interview-based programme on new trends in Indian culture.
- **Lecture Series for Members of Parliament:** The programme is based on the series of lectures organized by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training, Lok Sabha Secretariat to facilitate exchange of views on issues of topical concern between members and experts in diverse fields.

As regards the reach of the Channel, the Lok Sabha Satellite Television Channel (LSTV) is a technological extension of the visitors' gallery with the objective to make people aware about the participation of their representatives in the House. The size of target segment for current

LSTV programmes is about 6 per cent of Satellite/Cable TV viewers. In actual numbers, there are about 14 million LSTV viewers. They are mostly from middle and upper classes of society, and persons from academic and NGO sectors and Government employees. The average age of the target audience is about 35 years.

The Channel, expected to touch the lives of the citizens in every nook and corner of the country, represents a defining moment in the evolution of the parliamentary traditions of the country. It is one of the rare channels that is concerned about social development issues and not driven by mindless consumerism.

3

THE PARLIAMENT MUSEUM

The President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, inaugurated the Parliament Museum on 14 August 2006 in the Parliament Library Building. The function was attended, among others, by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat; the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee; Union Ministers, former Speakers of Lok Sabha, leaders of political parties, members of Parliament and other distinguished invitees.

Addressing* the distinguished gathering, the President, Dr. Abdul Kalam said that the extensive use of high technologies to create 'virtual reality' and special audio-visual effects are the ultra-modern features of this Parliament Museum. More than us, it is the younger generation today, and perhaps for centuries to come, who will benefit by this valuable contribution dedicated to the history of democratic institutions in India, as it grows and blends into the future. The Vice-President of India and Chairman Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee also addressed the august gathering. The President presented mementos to Dr. Saroj Ghose, Shri D. Basu and Shri Anil Kumar Sarkar. Concluding the inaugural function, the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri P.D.T. Achary extended a Vote of Thanks.

Earlier, Dr. Saroj Ghose, Honorary Adviser, Parliament Museum described the historical significance of the artifacts and exhibits displayed in the Museum to the dignitaries who were shown round the Parliament Museum. The dignitaries highly appreciated the splendid and marvellous Museum showcasing the democratic heritage of India down the ages.

The Museum has been designed to serve as a hi-tech 'story-telling Museum', depicting the continuum of democratic ethos and institutional

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* For the full text of the Addresses delivered on the occasion, kindly refer to the feature, "Addresses at the Inauguration of The Parliament Museum in Parliament Library Building", at pp. 467-475

development in India. It is different from other Museums in the sense that it is not a Museum of objects but of events. The story of India's democratic and parliamentary heritage is told with the help of walk-through period settings, with sound-light-video synchronization, large screen interactive computer multi-media and immersive visualization with multi-screen panoramic projections, virtual reality and animatronics. In addition, the Museum has a Resource Centre with a fully computerized textual and visual information bank.

On the ground floor of the Museum is a recreated archaeological site depicting self-governing democratic societies that evolved in India through the ages. Emperor Asoka was known for preaching high ethical values as evinced from his rock edicts and inscriptions found on numerous stone pillars. As a fitting tribute to his wisdom and vision, the Lion Capitol from Asokan Pillar at *Sarnath* was adopted as the official national emblem and the wheel design on its base adorns India's national flag. Asoka's missions for peace and harmony, on the principles of *Panchsheel,* influenced India's foreign policy after Independence. Following Buddha's *Nirvana,* the *Dhamma* and *Sangha* received directives form successive Buddhist Councils for over four centuries, in a democratic manner. The period setting of that age demonstrates these features in a benefiting manner.

With people speaking different languages, following different religious faiths and observing different social customs, India is a multi-cultural society, marked by unity in diversity. The exhibit showing Emperor Akbar's *Ibadatkhana* depicts how the concept of peaceful co-existence in a multi-religious and pluralist society in free India has drawn inspiration from noble emperors like him.

The twentieth century dawned with a demand for self-governance, ultimately crystallizing into the National Freedom Movement. Visitors walk through a period setting with sound-light-video synchronization depicting the story of India's freedom struggle. Visitors also have an emotional experience of walking along the side of Mahatma Gandhi, in Dandi March of 1930, in a virtual reality exhibit.

A large-screen multi-media projection, with artifacts of that period, reveals the story of legislative reforms in the country starting from the Charter Act of 1833 and ending with the Indian Independence Act of 1947. Immediately after Independence, the Constituent Assembly of India formed the Drafting Committee with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar as its Chairman. The Constitution of India was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949 and signed on 24 January 1950. The

The President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam inaugurating the Parliament Museum in Parliament Library Building

A view of the Parliament Museum

Another view of the Museum depicting the important events of the Freedom Movement

The distinguished dignitaries, sitting beside the replica of the national leaders in recreated Central Hall of Parliament, listening to an animatronic presentation of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's 'Tryst with Destiny' speech on the midnight of 14-15 August 1947

exhibit on the Constituent Assembly depicts its members deliberating over the framing of the Constitution. Visitors can see the calligraphed copies of the Constitution in Hindi and English and access every page of the Constitution, in a computer multi-media programme.

The involvement of the people in the democratic process has been shown by recreating a polling station, vote counting centre and a short video presentation on the electoral process.

On the mezzanine floor of the Museum, visitors find the recreated settings of the Chambers of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha; they can also have a feel of proceedings of the two Houses through computer interactive modules. A recreated Central Hall of Parliament House presents animatronics of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru delivering his historic 'Tryst with Destiny' speech on midnight of 14-15 August 1947, and again, speaking in the last session of the Constituent Assembly on 24 January 1950. Visitors have the privilege of taking their seats along side the national leaders of that time, and observe Pandit Nehru in an animatronics presentation.

The evolution of the Parliament House Complex from the early sketches of Edwin Lutyens to those of the present-day Parliament Library Building, along with the visuals of various State Legislative Assemblies of India and Parliaments of the world, are projected through computerized multi-media devices.

The Parliament Museum displays the portraits of national leaders unveiled in the Central Hall from time to time, apart from the artifacts and souvenirs received from different countries and preserved in the Archives. The Museum also has a Souvenir shop. A number of items ranging from pen sets to brass flower vase with the logo of Parliament Museum are available on sale at moderate prices at the Souvenir shop.

The Museum has been set up by the Kolkata Museum Society under the guidance of Dr. Saroj Ghose, former Director General of the National Council of Science Museums, and former President of the International Council of Museums, Paris. The Museum is open to public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on all weekdays, except Sunday, Monday and Government holidays.

4

UNVEILING OF THE STATUES OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND SRI AUROBINDO IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE

On 23 August 2006, the statues of Swami Vivekananda and Sri Aurobindo were unveiled in the precincts of the Parliament House. The statue of Swami Vivekananda was unveiled by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and the statue of Sri Aurobindo by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

Swami Vivekananda was a social reformer, renowned thinker, gifted orator and spiritual and intellectual leader. One of the chief architects of the Indian renaissance, he exhorted the nation to a spiritual greatness and awakened the country to a new national consciousness. He was the founder of Ramakrishna Math and Mission to spearhead the teachings of his spiritual guru, Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa. Swami Vivekananda was a guiding spirit to the youth and his teachings shall ever remain an abiding source of inspiration to all.

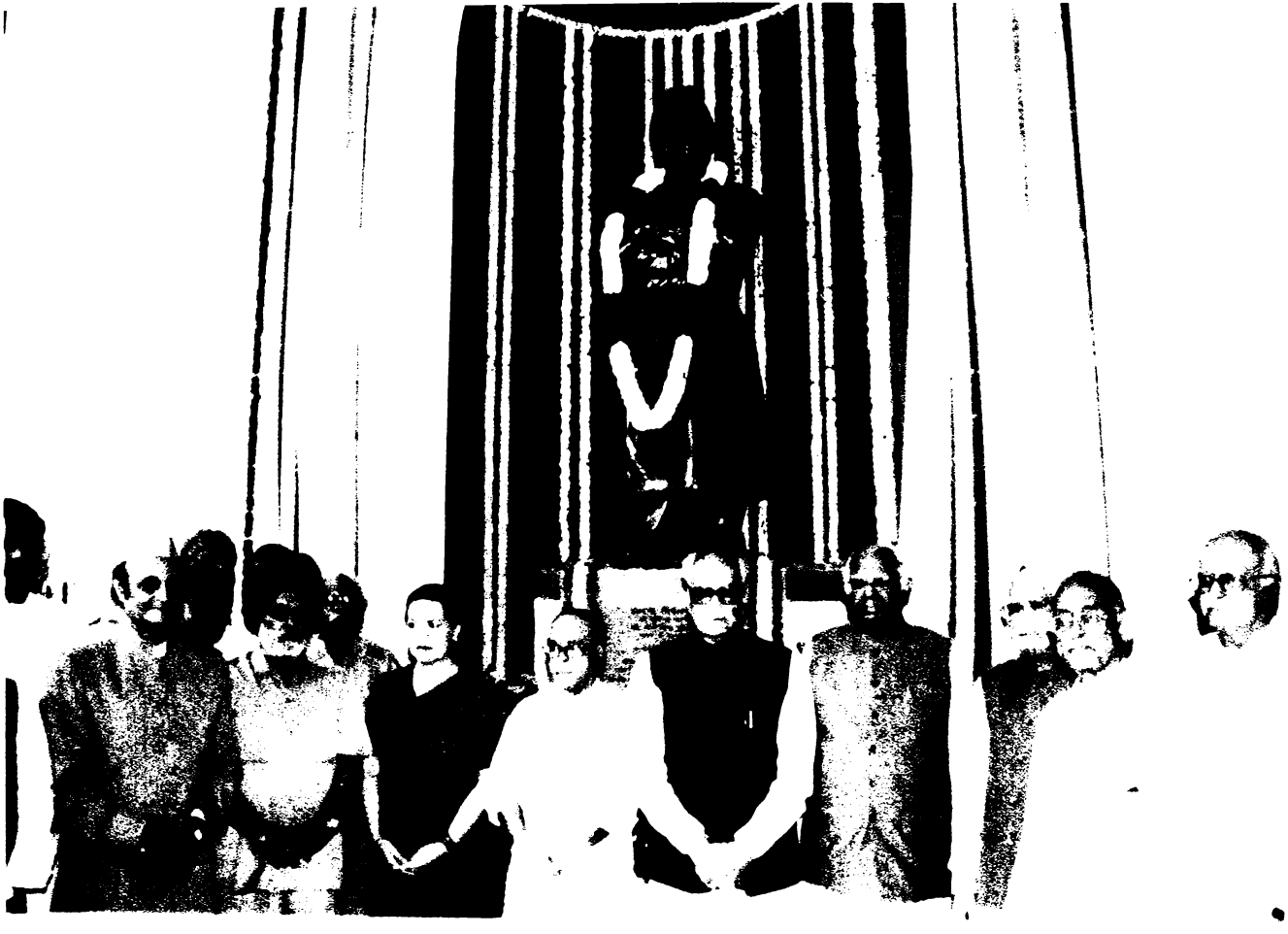
The 82-inch bronze statue of Swami Vivekananda had been carved by well-known sculptor, Shri C.D. Dakshinamoorthy and was donated by Dr. L.M. Singhvi, former member of Parliament.

Shri Aurobindo Ghose, popularly known as Sri Aurobindo, was a great poet, mystic saint, profound thinker, evolutionary philosopher and an ardent patriot. Among the national leaders, he was the first to insist on full independence for India as the goal of the nationalist movement. He also propounded the theory of cosmic salvation through spiritual evolution.

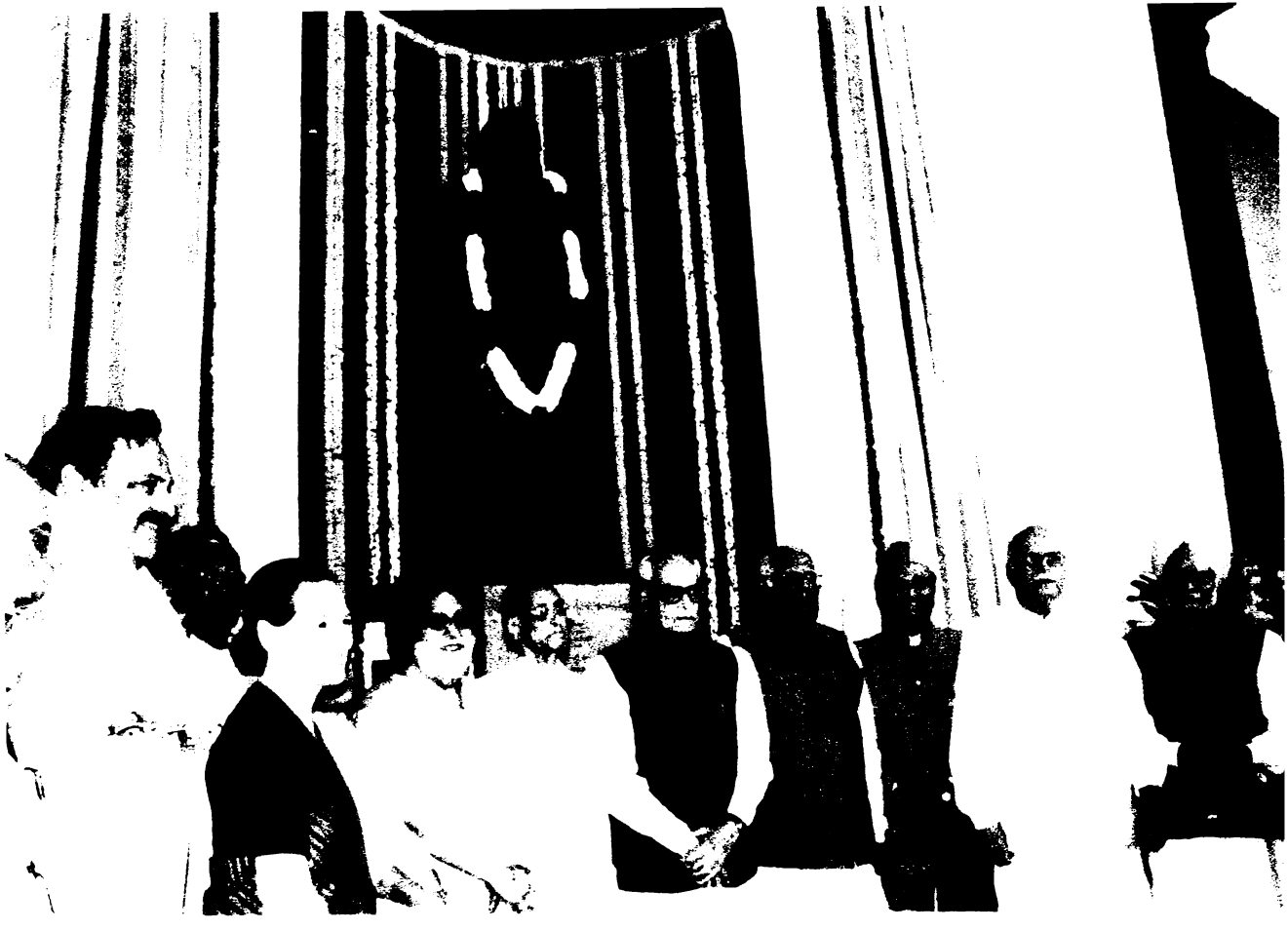
The 82-inch bronze statue of Sri Aurobindo had been carved by a team of sculptors from Sri Aurodhan, Puducherry and was donated by Dr. L.M. Singhvi, former Member of Parliament.

The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh presented shawls to the sculptors of both the statues as a mark of respect.

The function to unveil the statues was attended, among others by the Chairperson, United Progressive Alliance, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Leader of the House in Lok Sabha and Minister of Defence, Shri Pranab



Dignitaries assembled at the function to unveil the Statue of Swami Vivekananda by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat in the Parliament House



Dignitaries after the unveiling of the Statue of Sri Aurobindo by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee in the Parliament House

Mukherjee; the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Shri L.K. Advani; the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Rehman Khan; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Charnjit Singh Atwal; the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri E. Ahamed; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Suresh Pachauri; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Smt Panabaka Lakshmi; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Smt. Subbulakshmi Jagadeesan; former Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; leaders of political parties; members of both the Houses of Parliament and distinguished invitees.

5

UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF DEVI AHILYABAI HOLKAR IN PARLIAMENT LIBRARY BUILDING

On 24 August 2006, the statue of Devi Ahilyabai Holkar was unveiled in the Parliament Library Building by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat.

Devi Ahilyabai Holkar was the daughter-in-law of the first Maratha Governor of Malwa, Malharrao Holkar, who eventually became the ruler of Malwa herself. A noble and exemplary ruler and a prodigious philanthropist, Devi Ahilyabai overcame many obstacles and challenges in the mid-18th century to emerge as a source of strength to the people. Her rule became proverbial for justice and wisdom. She contributed a lot to the heritage of the country by establishing several religious edifices remarkable in architecture.

The statue of Devi Ahilyabai Holkar, 75-½ inch in height and made of bronze, had been sculpted by the well-known sculptor, Shri Shashikant Varke. The statue was donated by Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Member of Parliament on behalf of *Ahilyotsav Samiti, Indore.*

The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh presented shawl to Shri Shashikant Varke, the sculptor of the statue as a mark of respect.

The function for unveiling of the statue was attended, among others by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee; the Chairperson, United Progressive Alliance, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Leader of the House in Lok Sabha and Minister of Defence, Shri Pranab Mukherjee*; the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Shri L.K. Advani; the Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri Sharad Pawar; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Charnjit Singh Atwal; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Suresh Pachauri; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri Kantilal Bhuria; former Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; leaders of political parties, members of Parliament and other distinguished guests.

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* Now, Minister of External Affairs

Dignitaries after the unveiling of the Statue of Dev Ahilyabai Holkar by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat in the Parliament Library Building

6

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

APPCED Parliamentarians Workshop on MDG and the International Development Cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region:* The APPCED Parliamentarians Workshop on "MDG and the International Development Cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region" was held in Seoul, South Korea from 1 to 4 September 2006. Shri Sandeep Dikshit, MP participated in the Workshop. The Workshop brought together the parliamentarians from APPCED member countries, researchers and policy advisors. The following subjects were discussed at the Workshop:

- Environment and MDG;
- Development and Environment Policy;
- MDG and International Development Cooperation; and
- Role of the Parliamentarians for Joint Goals.

The 52nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Nigeria: The 52nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was held in Abuja, in Nigeria from 1 to 9 September 2006. The Indian delegation to the Conference was led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and Vice-President, CPA, Shri Somnath Chatterjee. The Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly and Chairman, CPA, Shri Hashim Abdul Halim also attended the Conference. The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan; the Speaker, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy and the Speaker, Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Singh attended the CPA Executive Committee Meeting from India Region as Regional Representatives.

The other members of the Delegation from India Union Branch were: Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, MP (Rajya Sabha); Shri Nand Kishore Yadav, MP (Rajya Sabha); Shri Harin Pathak, MP (Lok Sabha); Smt. Pratibha Singh, MP (Lok Sabha); and Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, MP (Lok

* Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment and Development

Sabha). Smt. C.S. Sujatha, MP (Lok Sabha) attended the Conference as a member of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Steering Committee. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri P.D.T. Achary attended the Conference as Regional Secretary of CPA India Region and Member of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table. Dr. Yogendra Narain, Secretary General, Rajya Sabha and Member of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table attended the Conference as Observer. Shri R.C. Ahuja, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was the Secretary to the Delegation.

The Delegation from India Region also included the following delegates from the State CPA Branches in India: Shri D. Sridhar Babu, MLA, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly; the Speaker, Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Setong Sena; the Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Tanka Bahadur Rai; the Speaker, Bihar Vidhan Sabha, Uday Narayan Chaudhary; the Speaker, Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha, Shri Prem Prakash Pandey; the Speaker, Goa Legislative Assembly, Shri Francisco Caetano Sardinha; the Speaker, Gujarat Legislative Assembly, Prof. Mangalbhai Madhavdas Patel; the Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha, Dr. Raghuvir Singh Kadian; the Speaker, Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Shri G.R. Mussafir; the Deputy Speaker, Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Mohd. Akbar Lone; the Speaker, Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Shri Krishna; the Speaker, Kerala Legislative Assembly, Shri K. Radhakrishnan; the Speaker, Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Ishwar Das Rohani; the Chairman, Maharashtra Legislative Council, Shri Shivajirao Bapusaheb Deshmukh; the Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly, Dr. Md. Maniruddin Shaikh; the Deputy Speaker, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, Shri Phingwell Muktieh; the Speaker, Mizoram Legislative Assembly, Shri Lal Chamliana; the Speaker, Nagaland Legislative Assembly, Shri Kiyanilie Peseyie; the Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Dr. Kewal Krishan; the Deputy Speaker, Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha, Shri Ram Narayan Bishnoi; the Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Shri Dawa Narbu Takarpa; the Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Thiru R. Anudaiappan; the Speaker, Tripura Legislative Assembly, Shri R.C. Debnath; the Speaker, Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Shri Mata Prasad Pandey; the Deputy Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly, Shri Bhakti Pada Ghosh; the Speaker, Delhi Vidhan Sabha, Chaudhary Prem Singh; and the Speaker, Pondicherry Legislative Assembly, Shri R. Radhakrishnan.

Shri Sumit Kumar, Secretary, Haryana Vidhan Sabha; Shri Anant

amdeorao Kalse, Principal Secretary, Maharashtra Legislature; hri C.P. Mansai, Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly nd Shri Devendra Verma, Secretary, Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha ere the four Secretaries from the State Branches who attended the onference.

The theme of the Conference was "Enhancing Standards of emocratic Governance and Public Perceptions of Parliament in ommonwealth". During the Conference, the following topics were scussed in the Workshops:

- Strategies in the Care and Support of HIV/AIDS Orphans and other Vulnerable Children: The Role of Parliamentarians;
- Domestic Violence: Is Legislation Enough to Combat Abuse and Child Abduction?
- Transnational Security Threats: Unregulated Migration and Cross-Border Controls;
- Climate Change and Desertification: How can Parliamentarians Influence the Work of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development?; and
- The Role of Parliamentarians in Promoting Good Governance through Increased Fiscal Transparency.

During the Conference, the Speaker, Lok Sabha and Vice-President PA, Shri Somnath Chatterjee was the moderator on the topic, "The ole of Parliamentarians in Promoting Good Governance through ıcreased Fiscal Transparency". The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha nd Regional Representative India Region, Shri K. Rahman Khan as one of the Discussion Leaders on the topic, "Strategies in the are and Support of HIV/AIDS Orphans and other Vulnerable hildren: The Role of Parliamentarians".

There were three plenary sessions which were as follows:

(i) Equal Participation of Women and Men in Decision-Making Processes at all Levels, with particular emphasis on Political Participation and Leadership;

(ii) The Role of Parliamentarians and Civil Society in Poverty Reduction; and

(iii) Enhancing Good Governance with Transparency, Accountability and Exemplary Punishment for Corrupt Practices.

A meeting of the CPA Executive Committee was held in Abuja on

2, 3, 4 and 9 September 2006. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, attended the meeting as the Vice-President of the CPA.

Election of the President of the CPA: The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee was elected as the President of the CPA for the year 2006-2007.

Election of Regional Representative from India Region to the CPA Executive Committee: Smt. C.S. Sujatha, MP Lok Sabha was elected as the Regional Representative from India Region to the CPA Executive Committee for the period 2006-2009 in place of the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan.

Meeting of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table at the 52nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Nigeria: The 43rd General Meeting of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table was held from 7 to 9 September 2006. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri P.D.T. Achary attended the meeting and presented a paper on the subject, "Office of Profit as a Ground for Disqualification for Membership of Parliament". Dr. Yogendra Narain, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha also presented a paper on the subject, "Disqualification of a Member of Rajya Sabha under article 103 of the Constitution of India".

Visit of Ms. Lindiwe Maseko, Chairperson, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Steering Committee: Ms. Lindiwe Maseko, Chairperson, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Steering Committee visited Delhi from 20 to 21 July 2006. During her visit, she called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and proposed that India Union Branch should host a Conference of Women Delegates during the 53rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference to be held in India in September 2007.

Ms. Maseko also met Smt. Krishna Tirath, Chairperson, Committee on Empowerment of Women on 21 July 2006.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organised under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are also brought out on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated during the period from 1 July to 30 September 2006.

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, a function was held on 6 July 2006. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri L.K. Advani; the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Jaswant Singh; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, a function was held on 23 July 2006. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri L.K. Advani; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Suresh Pachauri; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri B.K. Handique; the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri Prithviraj Chavan; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, a function was held on 20 August 2006. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Chairperson, UPA, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Law and Justice, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj; the Minister of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises; Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev; the Minister of Small Scale Industries and Minister of Agro & Rural Industries, Shri Mahavir Prasad; the Minister of Water Resources, Prof. Saif-Ud-Din Soz; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi; the Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Minister of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Shri Kapil Sibal; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan; the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Suresh Pachauri; the Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri P.R. Kyndiah; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri B.K.

Handique; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Shri Kantilal Bhuria; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal; the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri Prithviraj Chavan; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal; the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Anand Sharma; members of Parliament, former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Dadabhai Naoroji: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dadabhai Naoroji, a function was held on 4 September 2006. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Suresh Pachauri, former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION GOING ABROAD

China: A 14-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee visited China from 2 to 8 July 2006. The other members of the Delegation were: Shri K. Rahman Khan, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Sarvashri Ananth Kumar, K.S. Rao, Joachim Baxla, Mangani Lal Mandal, Smt. V. Radhika Selvi, all members of Parliament and Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri P.D.T. Achary. Shri R.C. Ahuja, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was the Secretary to the Delegation. Besides Beijing, the Delegation also visited Zhengzhou and Shanghai.

Greece: A 14-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee visited Greece from 25 to 28 September 2006. The other members of the Delegation were: Sarvashri Raashid Alvi, Kailash Joshi, Shailendra Kumar, Mani Cheranamai, Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Smt. Tejaswini Seeramesh, all members of Parliament and Shri P.D.T. Achary, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha. Shri P.K. Bhandari, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was the Secretary to the Delegation.

FOREIGN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITING INDIA

Republic of Belarus: A 12-member Parliamentary Delegation from

the Republic of Belarus led by H.E. Mr. Gennady Vassilievich Novitsky, Chairman of the Republic of Belarus National Assembly Council of the Republic of the 3rd Convocation visited India from 25 to 30 July 2006.

On 25 July 2006, the Delegation called on the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at Rashtrapati Bhawan. The Delegation also had a meeting with India-Belarus Parliamentary Friendship Group headed by Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria. The meeting was followed by a lunch hosted by the President of India-Belarus Friendship Group in honour of the visiting Delegation.

On 26 July 2006, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Somnath Chatterjee. The Speaker hosted a Banquet in honour of the visiting Delegation the same evening. The Delegation also called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. On the same day, the Delegation also had a Luncheon meeting with the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Sardar Charnjit Singh Atwal and members of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation who visited Belarus in the year 2005.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra and Bangalore.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP

India-Turkey: A meeting of India-Turkey Parliamentary Friendship Group headed by Shri B.K. Hariprasad, Member of Parliament and President of the Group with the visiting Turkey-India Parliamentary Friendship Group headed by Prof. Dr. Nazim Ekren, Deputy Chairman of the Justice and Development Party was held on 14 September 2006. The meeting was followed by lunch hosted by the President of the Group, Shri B.K. Hariprasad, in honour of the visiting Parliamentarians.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

During the period 1 July to 30 September 2006, the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) organized the following courses/programmes:

Lecture Series for Members of Parliament: As part of the Lecture Series for members of Parliament which was started during the Fifth Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha, the following inter-active Lecture Sessions were organized:

(i) Lecture on "India's Challenges to meet the Millennium

Development Goals" by Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of Earth Institute at Columbia University, was held on 3 August 2006;

(ii) Lecture on "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rainwater Harvesting" by Shri D.K. Dutt, former Chairman of Central Ground Water Board, organized jointly by BPST and Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management, was held on 23 August 2006; and

(iii) Lecture on "Regenerating North East India" by Shri B.G. Verghese, veteran Journalist, was held on 24 August 2006.

Study Visits: During the period the following visits were conducted by the Bureau:

(i) Study Visit by a 9-member Ethiopian Delegation headed by Mr. Getachew Bedane, Government Whip, House of People's Representatives from 24 to 30 August 2006;

(ii) Five other Study Visits for the benefit of officers/staff/ students from various organizations/institutes/schools. A total of 185 participants attended these visits.

Orientation Programme: An Orientation Programme was organized by the Bureau for the Media persons Accredited to the Press Gallery of the Lok Sabha from 28 July to 29 July 2006 and from 4 August to 5 August 2006.

Appreciation Courses: During the period, Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures were organised for: (i) Probationers of Indian Foreign Service, attended by 20 participants, from 17 July to 21 July 2006; (ii) Senior Audit and Account Officers of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, attended by 46 participants, from 24 July to 28 July 2006; (iii) Probationers of Indian Forest Service, Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Central Excise) and Indian Defence Estates Service, attended by 67 participants, from 31 July to 4 August 2006; (iv) Probationers of Indian Economic Service, Indian Statistical Service, Indian Railways Service of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering (IRSME), Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS) and Indian Railway Stores Services (IRSS), attended by 50 participants, from 21 to 25 August 2006.

Training Programmes: The Bureau also conducted a Training Course for the officials of Parliament and State Legislature Secretariats working in the Financial Committees from 21 August to 25 August 2006. A total of 30 participants attended the course.

Training Programme/Conference Abroad: Two officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attended the International Federation of Library Association Conference in Seoul, South Korea from 16 August to 24 August 2006

Workshop: A Workshop on Parliament Questions was organized for the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat from 4 July to 5 July 2006. A total of 46 participants attended the Workshop.

7

PRIVILEGE ISSUES

During the period from 1 July to 30 September 2006, the Speaker, Lok Sabha gave following three rulings on privilege matters:–

(i) Reflection on Prime Minister

On 7 August 2006, Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Sarvashri Braja Kishore Tripathy, Prabhunath Singh, George Fernandes, Santosh Gangwar, Sukhdev Singh Libra, Mohan Singh and Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri gave notices of question of privilege against the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh regarding the alleged leakage of report of the Justice Pathak Inquiry Authority on the Volcker Committee Disclosures. On 8 August 2006, Dr. M. Jagannath also gave a notice of question of privilege in the matter.

On 11 August 2006, the Speaker, Lok Sabha gave the following ruling in the House while disallowing the notices of question of privilege in the matter:–

> "On 7 August 2006, I received several notices raising, what has been described as question of privilege from Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Sarvashri Braja Kishore Tripathy, Prabhunath Singh, George Fernandes, Santosh Gangwar, Sukhdev Singh Libra, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri and Mohan Singh against the honourable Prime Minister regarding alleged leakage of the report of the Justice Pathak Inquiry Authority on the Volcker Committee Disclosures before it was laid on the Table of the House. Shri Mohan Singh's notice is also directed against Editor of the newspaper *"Rashtriya Sahara"* which has, it is stated, carried a news report in this regard. I have also received a notice of question of privilege from Dr. M. Jagannath on 8 August 2006 in the matter. It is the contention of the honourable members that leakage of the contents of the Report before it was laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament amounts to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House. Though Justice Pathak Inquiry Authority was not constituted under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, the Government subsequently issued a notification declaring that certain specific provisions of the Act would be applicable to the said Authority. Hence the report of the Authority which was presented to the honourable Prime Minister by Justice

Pathak on 3 August 2006, was to be treated as confidential and not to be published before it was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament.

On 4 August 2006, when some honourable members raised the matter about the leakage in the media of the report of the Pathak Inquiry Authority, from the Chair, I expressed my resentment on such publication and also desired that the Government should enquire into the matter.

The question that has arisen is whether such prior publication, what is described as the leakage of a portion of the report in the media, amounts to breach of privilege of the House. The question which has been raised is not *res integra* and there are ample authorities to hold that giving premature publicity to any matter connected with the business of the House is not a breach of privilege and contempt of the House, though in some cases it may amount to an act of impropriety. It has been held that no privilege of Parliament is involved if statement on any matter of public interest is not first made in the House and is made outside. Such actions are against conventions and propriety but do not constitute any basis on which breach of privilege can be founded. It has been held that it is not a breach of privilege if documents intended for members are circulated to the Press and to non-members first, though such acts are deprecated.

It may be mentioned and as has been stated that after the submission of the report to the Government in the evening of 3 August 2006, it was placed before the House on Monday, 7 August 2006, along with Action Taken Report thereon and I expect the Government will duly investigate as to how the leakage took place. Of course, it is for the Government to take action but I expect that such steps will be taken.

Late Shri G.V. Mavalankar, honourable Speaker of first Lok Sabha in his ruling in the House on 22 August 1955, on the issue of leakage of the Report of the Bank Award Commission before it was laid on the Table of the House, was pleased to hold that leakage of the Report did not constitute any breach of privilege. Similarly, on a number of occasions in the past, question of breach of privilege was raised in the context of leakage of the Budget. On 19 March 1956, a question of breach of privilege was raised in the Lok Sabha on the leakage of budget proposals. The then honourable Speaker while giving his ruling on the issue referred to two well-known cases of the House of Commons, namely, Thomas Case and Dalton Case, in which the leakage of budget was treated as

not constituting a breach of privilege, and held accordingly. Again, on 25 February 1982, on a question of privilege in the context of the leakage of Railway Budget, the honourable Speaker ruled that leakage of budget did not constitute a breach of privilege. It has been consistently held in a catena of cases in India as well as in the House of Commons that a document which is in the custody of the Government before it is presented to the House is treated as an official secret and, therefore, the leakage of the same does not constitute a breach of privilege of the House.

In view of the rulings of my very distinguished predecessors and the well-established position, I hold that no breach of privilege or contempt of the House has been occasioned by the leakage of the contents of the Report. I, therefore, disallow the notices of question of privilege."

(ii) Reflection on Speaker, Lok Sabha

(a) On 11 August 2006, Sarvashri Devendra Prasad Yadav, Adhir Ranjan Choudhary, D. Narbula and Dr. Rajesh Kumar Mishra, MPs gave notices of question of privilege against Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, MP and former Prime Minister for reportedly casting reflections on the conduct and impartiality of honourable Speaker in discharge of his duties by making certain observations in his letter dated 8 August 2006 addressed to him.

On 11 August 2006, when the matter was sought to be raised in the House, the Speaker, Lok Sabha made the following observation:–

"I have the highest respect, as much as you have, if not more, for him. I have seen him in this House; I have had the great fortune of working together with him from 1971, and that is my great privilege. Therefore, you do not think that only you have greater respect for him. Please do not prolong this episode.

I am again and again stating that let this episode be over, at least so far as the House is concerned..."

(b) On 18 August 2006, Shri Santasri Chatterjee, MP gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri Shatrughan Sinha, MP, Rajya Sabha and Shri Shiv Viswanathan, Sociologist drawing attention towards a feature titled 'Should MPs be fined for stalling House' comprising views of Shri Shatrughan Sinha, member of Rajya Sabha and Shri Shiv Viswanathan, Sociologist, under the column 'Sunday Debate' appearing in the *'The Times of India'* (Kolkata edition) datelined 13 August 2006. Shri Santasri Chatterjee while alleging that in the said column some aspersions had been cast on "the august office of the honourable

Speaker" by Shri Shatrughan Sinha and Shri Viswanathan, sought privilege proceedings against them.

On 22 August 2006, the Speaker, Lok Sabha made the following observation in the matter:–

> "Shri Santasri Chatterjee, I have received your notice on the question of privilege dated 18 August 2006, against Shri Shatrughan Sinha, member of Rajya Sabha and Shri Viswanathan, Sociologist for allegedly casting aspersions on the Office of Speaker, Lok Sabha in an article published in *The Times of India,* dated 13 August 2006. I did not notice it earlier. I have noticed it now. I treat it with the contempt that it deserves. I do not allow this notice. Let it be dropped."

Committee on Ethics

A meeting of the Committee on Ethics was held on 23 August 2006 in connection with the consideration and adoption of the first and second Reports of the Committee. Following Reports were presented during the period:–

1. First Report of the Committee on Ethics regarding incorporation of the rules regarding constitution of a Committee on Ethics, its functions and procedures to be followed by the Committee and procedure for making ethics complaints, in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha was presented to the Speaker on 24 August 2006, and laid on the Table of the House on 25 August 2006.
2. Second Report of the Committee on Ethics regarding alleged misuse of car park label by Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh, MP was presented to the Speaker on 24 August 2006, and laid on the Table of the House on 25 August 2006.

8

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat do not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Parliament Session: The Eighth Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha and the Two Hundred and Eighth Session of the Rajya Sabha commenced on 24 July 2006. Both the Houses of Parliament were adjourned *sine die* on 25 August 2006. The President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam prorogued the two Houses on 30 August 2006.

Elections to Rajya Sabha: On 19 June 2006, Sarvashri K.E. Ismail (Communist Party of India), Prof. P.J. Kurien (Indian National Congress) and P.R. Rajan [Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI (M)] were declared elected to the Rajya Sabha from Kerala. Their term of office commenced on 2 July 2006.

On 6 July 2006, Shri K.P.K. Kumaran of the DMK was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Tamil Nadu. Shri Kumaran's term commenced on 11 July 2006.

On 11 July 2006, Smt. Supriya Sule of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra. Smt. Supriya Sule's term commenced on 18 September 2006.

Withdrawal of Support to UPA Government: On 22 August 2006, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) withdrew support to the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government in protest against the Government's failure to give a concrete assurance on the long-pending demand for separate statehood to Telangana.

The two TRS Ministers in the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government–Labour and Employment Minister Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao and the Minister of State for Rural Development Shri A. Narendra also resigned from the Council of Ministers. The President accepted their resignations on 24 August 2006.

Lok Sabha Bye-elections Results: The bye-elections to three Lok Sabha constituencies in West Bengal were held on 16 September 2006. The results were announced on 19 September 2006. While Shri Abu Ayes Mondal of the (CPI-M) and Shri Narahari Mahato of the All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) were declared elected from Katwa and Purulia constituencies, respectively, Shri Abu Hasem Khan Choudhury of the INC was declared elected from Malda Lok Sabha constituency.

Death of Rajya Sabha Member: On 11 July 2006, Shri Vasant Chavan, a NCP member of the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra passed away.

Death of Lok Sabha Member: On 19 August 2006, Shri K.P. Naidu, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) member of the Lok Sabha from Bobbili Constituency of Andhra Pradesh passed away.

Suspension of BSP MPs: The Bahujan Samaj Party suspended Rajya Sabha member Shri Isam Singh and Shri Bhal Chandra Yadav, Lok Sabha member from Khalilabad in Uttar Pradesh from the party for indulging in anti-party activities on 3 and 22 September 2006, respectively.

Resignation of Lok Sabha Member: On 23 September 2006, Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao of the TRS resigned from his Karimnagar (Andhra Pradesh) Lok Sabha Constituency.

AROUND THE STATES

BIHAR

Suspension of JD (U) MLA: On 19 August 2006, the Janata Dal (United) President, Shri Sharad Yadav suspended Shri Narendra Kumar Pandey *alias* Sunil Pandey, MLA from the party's membership for "indiscipline".

Death of Former Chief Minister: On 4 September 2006, freedom fighter and former Chief Minister Satyendra Narain Sinha died after a prolonged illness. He was 89.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Resignation of Deputy Chief Minister: On 3 September 2006, Deputy

Chief Minister Shri Muzaffar Hussain Beig submitted his resignation to Chief Minister Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. Shri Beig's resignation was accepted by the Governor.

JHARKHAND

Resignation of Four Ministers: On 5 September 2006, the Arjun Munda-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Government was reduced to a minority as four of its Ministers resigned from the Council of Ministers and also announced severing of ties with the ruling alliance. Those who resigned were Sarvashri Madhu Koda, Harinarayan Rai and Enos Ekka, all Independents and Shri Kamlesh Singh, the lone NCP legislator in the State Assembly.

Resignation of NDA Government: On 14 September 2006, the Chief Minister, Shri Arjun Munda resigned without moving the trust vote as his Government had been reduced to a minority following withdrawal of support by four Ministers.

New Chief Minister: On 18 September 2006, Shri Madhu Koda, an Independent MLA was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand. Along with him, Shri Kamlesh Singh of the Nationalist Congress Party and Sarvashri Enos Ekka and Harinarayan Rai, both Independents, also took oath of office.

Madu Koda Wins Trust Vote: On 20 September 2006, the UPA Ministry led by Madhu Koda won the vote of confidence with 41 MLAs in the 82-member-House voting in favour while the Opposition NDA refused to participate in the process.

KARNATAKA

Death of former Governor: On 19 August 2006, the former Karnataka Governor, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh, died at Lucknow after a prolonged illness

KERALA

Resignation of Minister: On 4 September 2006, the Public Works Minister, Shri P.J. Joseph resigned from the Cabinet in the wake of the report of an inquiry into the allegation that he had misbehaved with a woman co-passenger on a Kochi-bound flight from Chennai on 3 August 2006.

RAJASTHAN

Death of MLA: On 7 August 2006, Shri Nathu Lal Ahari, INC MLA

from Dungarpur passed away at Jaipur following a prolonged illness. He was 68.

Suspension of MLA: On 18 August 2006, the INC suspended its party MLA Shri Jagat Singh from the party for his alleged involvement in the oil-for-food scam and also for "anti-party activities".

UTTAR PRADESH

Disqualification of Four SP MLAs: On 19 August 2006, the Speaker, Shri Mata Prasad Pandey, disqualified four Samajwadi Party MLAs namely Sarvashri Ratan Lal Ahirwar, Sunder Lal, Kalyan Singh Dohre and Smt. Omwati Devi from their membership of the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha The four were disqualified after the Speaker upheld the plea for disqualification in the petition filed by their party general secretary and PWD and Energy Minister, Shri Shivpal Singh Yadav. The four were found guilty of defying the party whip and cross-voting in favour of the Bahujan Samaj Party in the Rajya Sabha elections held in March this year. These MLAs were suspended from the party earlier on 4 April 2006 for indulging in "anti-party activities."

Resignation of Three BJP MLAs: On 3 September 2006, three sitting MLAs of the Bharatiya Janata Party namely Sarvashri Mahendra Singh Yadav, Amarjit Singh Jansewak and Shyam Singh Aheriya resigned from the party and joined the Samajwadi Party.

WEST BENGAL

By-Election Result: On 19 September 2006, Shri Sougata Roy, of the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) was declared elected from Bongaon Assembly constituency, by-election for which was held on 16 September 2006.

EVENTS ABROAD

COLOMBIA

President Sworn in: On 7 August 2006, Mr. Alvaro Uribe Velez was sworn in as the President of Colombia for a second term.

CONGO

President Elected: Mr. Joseph Kabila was elected as the President of Congo, in the elections held for the post on 30 July 2006.

CZECH REPUBLIC

New Prime Minister: On 16 August 2006, Mr. Mirek Topolanek was

appointed as the Prime Minister by the President Mr. Vaclav Klaus. Mr. Topolanek replaced Mr. Jiri Parovbek who submitted his resignation.

EAST TIMOR

New Prime Minister: On 8 July 2006, Mr. Jose Ramos Horta was appointed as the Prime Minister by the President Mr. Jose Xanana Gusmao.

ESTONIA

President Elected: Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves was elected as the President of Estonia, in the elections held for the post on 23 September 2006.

GAMBIA

President Elected: Mr. Yahya Jammeh was re-elected for a third five-year term as the President of the Gambia, in the elections for the post held on 22 September 2006.

GUYANA

Election Results: The elections to the 65-seat National Assembly (the Unicameral Legislature) were held on 28 August 2006. The party position following the elections is as follows: People's Progressive Party/Civic: 36; People's National Congress/One Guyana: 22; Alliance for Change: 5; Guyana Action Party/Rise Organise and Rebuild: 1; and The United Force: 1.

President Sworn in: On 2 September 2006, Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo was sworn in as the President of Guyana for a consecutive five-year term.

JAPAN

New Prime Minister: On 26 September 2006, Mr. Shinzo Abe was elected as the Prime Minister after approval by 339 of 476 votes in the House of Representatives (the Lower House of the *Diet*, the Bicameral Legislature) and 136 of 240 votes in the House of Councillors (the Upper House).

LITHUANIA

New Prime Minister: On 4 July 2006, the Seimas (the Unicameral Legislature) approved by 86-13 votes the appointment of Mr. Gediminas Kirkilas as the Prime Minister who had been nominated by the President, Mr. Valdas Adamkus, on 29 June following the collapse of the previous Government on 31 May.

MACEDONIA

Election Results: The elections to the 120-seat *Sobranje* (the Unicameral Legislature) were held on 5 July 2006. The party position following the elections is as follows: Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation-Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity: 45; Together for Macedonia: 32; Democratic Union for Integration: 17; Democratic Party of Albanians: 11; New Social Democratic Party: 7; Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation-People's Party: 6; Democratic Renewal of Macedonia: 1; and Party for European Future: 1.

New Government: On 28 August 2006, the *Sobranje* approved the new Government headed by Mr. Nikola Gruevski of the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation-Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity, as the Prime Minister.

MEXICO

President Elected: Mr. Felipe Calderon was elected as the President of Mexico, in the elections held for the post on 2 July 2006.

MONTENEGRO

Election Results: The elections to the 81-seat Parliament (the Unicameral Legislature) were held on 10 September 2006. The party position following the elections is as follows: Coalition for a European Montenegro: 41; Serbian List: 12; Coalition SNP/NS/DSS: 11; Movement for Change: 11; Coalition of the Liberals and Bosniaks: 3; Coalition of the Democratic League of Montenegro and the Party of Democratic Prosperity: 1; Democratic Union of Albanians: 1; and Albanian Alternative: 1.

PERU

President Sworn in: Mr. Alan Garcia Perez was sworn in as the President of Peru on 28 July 2006. The election for the post was held on 4 June 2006.

POLAND

New Prime Minister: On 14 July 2006, Mr. Jaroslaw Kaczynski was appointed as the Prime Minister by the President Mr. Lech Kaczynski.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

President Elected: Mr. Fradique de Menezes was re-elected as the President of Sao Tome and Principe, in the elections held for the post on 30 July 2006.

SEYCHELLES

President Re-elected: Mr. James Michel was re-elected as the President of Seychelles, in the elections held for the post on 28-30 July 2006.

SWEDEN

Election Results: The elections to the 349-seat *Riksdag* (the Unicameral Legislature) were held on 17 September 2006. The party position following the elections is as follows: Social Democratic Labour Party: 130; Moderate Unity Party: 97; Centre Party: 29; Liberal Party: 28; Christian Democratic Community Party: 24; Left Party: 22; and Green Party: 19.

YEMEN

President Elected: Lt. General Ali Abdullah Saleh was elected as the President of Yemen, in the elections held for the post on 20 September 2006.

ZAMBIA

President Elected: Mr. Levy Mwanawasa was elected as the President of Zambia, in the elections held for the post on 28 September 2006.

Election Results: The elections to the 158-seat National Assembly (the Unicameral Legislature) were held on 28 September 2006. The party position following the elections is as follows: Movement for Multiparty Democracy: 72; Patriotic Front: 44; United Democratic Alliance: 27; United Liberal Party: 2; National Democratic Focus: 1; Independents: 2; and Vacant: 2. Eight members were appointed by the President.

9

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

Article 102(1)(a) of the Constitution provided that a person should be disqualified for being chosen as and for being a member of either House of Parliament if he held an office of profit under the Government of India or Government of State other than an office declared by the Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder. In pursuance of this, the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 was enacted by the Parliament to exempt certain offices, holding of which would otherwise subject the holder of such office to disqualification. Recently, it had become necessary to reconsider the issue of disqualification of members of Parliament on the basis of holding an office of profit. This had been necessitated due to the recent developments where approximately 40 or more members from both the Houses of Parliament who held offices of Chairman or members of various statutory and non-statutory bodies, were facing disqualification proceedings on the ground of holding an office of profit. If this state of affairs was allowed to continue, it would have effected in large scale litigations, likely vacation of seats in both the Houses of Parliament and consequential avoidable expenditure in holding of the bye-elections to fill up the resultant vacancies. In view thereof, it was proposed to include certain offices in the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, so as to exempt the holders of such offices from incurring disqualification. The Parliament (Prevention Of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006, which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 16 and 17 May 2006, respectively. The President returned the Bill to the Rajya Sabha for reconsideration on 30 May 2006. A separate Message was also sent to the Speaker, Lok Sabha for reconsideration of the Bill. The Bill was reconsidered and passed by the Rajya Sabha on 27 July 2006. The Bill, as passed again by the Rajya Sabha, was passed by the Lok Sabha on 31 July 2006. It was assented to by the President on 18 August 2006.

The Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament in their Report dated 22 May 2006 had made certain recommendations regarding increase in the salary, daily allowance and the other facilities to which the members of Parliament were entitled to, pension payable to the former members of Parliament and family pension to the spouse or dependent of the members of Parliament and former members of Parliament. After considering the said Report, it had been decided to enhance the salary, daily allowance, and other facilities to which the members of Parliament were entitled to and pension to former members of Parliament and the family pension to the spouse or dependent of the members of Parliament by amending the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954. The Salary, Allowances And Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2006, which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives was passed by the

Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 23 August and 24 August 2006, respectively. It was assented to by the President on 12 September 2006. (For rules framed thereafter as on 12 December 2006, please refer to the Annexure)

For promotion and better safeguard of human rights, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was set up in October 1993, under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The NHRC had set up an advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice A.H. Ahmedi, former Chief Justice of India to assess the need for amendments to the Act. Based on the recommendations of the Justice Ahmedi Committee, the NHRC had suggested various amendments to the said Act. After examining various amendments proposed by the NHRC and certain other issues relating to the scope and ambit of the Act, it was decided to amend the Act. The Protection Of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006 was passed by the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha on 3 August and 24 August 2006, respectively. The President assented it on 13 September 2006.

The people of Pondicherry had been demanding since long for the Union territory of Pondicherry to be renamed as the Union territory of Puducherry on the basis that in the ancient time the said territory was known as Puducherry. The Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry passed an official resolution on 15 October 1980 requesting the Government of India to pass necessary legislation for altering the name of Pondicherry. Frequent requests were thereafter made for change of the name of the Union territory of Pondicherry.

Therefore, it had been decided to introduce a Bill for the purpose of altering the name of the Union territory of Pondicherry to Union territory of Puducherry by amending, *inter alia*, the–

(a) Part VIII of the Constitution;

(b) First Schedule of the Constitution;

(c) Fourth Schedule of the Constitution; and

(d) The Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

The Pondicherry (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2006, which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives was passed by the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha on 21 August and 24 August 2006, respectively. It was assented to by the President on 13 September 2006.

We reproduce here the texts of the above Acts.

—Editor

THE PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION AMENDMENT) ACT, 2006

An Act further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:–

1. *Short title:* This Act may be called the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Act, 2006.

2. *Amendment of section 3:* In section 3 of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).–

(*i*) after clause (*ac*), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:–

"(*ad*) the office of the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council constituted by the Government of India in the Cabinet Secretariat *vide* Order No.631/2/1/2004-Cab., dated the 31st May, 2004;";

(*ii*) after clause (*j*) and before *Explanation* I, the following clauses shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted with effect from the 4th day of April, 1959, namely:–

"(*k*) the office of Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary or Member (by whatever name called) in any statutory or non-statutory body specified in the Table;

(*l*) the office of Chairperson or trustee (by whatever name called) of any Trust, whether public or private, not being a body specified in the Schedule;

(*m*) the office of Chairman, President, Vice-President or Principal Secretary or Secretary of the Governing Body of any society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or under any other law relating to registration of societies, not being a body specified in the Schedule.".

3. *Insertion of new Table:* After the Schedule to the principal Act, the following Table shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted with effect from the 4th day of April, 1959, namely:–

TABLE

[*See* section 3(k)]

S.No.	Name of body
(1)	(2)
1.	The Tripura Khadi and Village Industries Board, a body constituted under the Tripura Khadi and Village Industries Act, 1966.
2.	The Uttar Pradesh Development Council.
3.	The Irrigation and Flood Control Commission, Uttar Pradesh.
4.	The Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta.
5.	The West Bengal Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited.
6.	The West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Limited.

The West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited.

The Sriniketan Santiniketan Development Authority, a body constituted under the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 (West Bengal Act No. 13 of 1979).

The Haldia Development Authority, a body constituted under the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 (West Bengal Act No. 13 of 1979).

The West Bengal Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, a body constituted under the West Bengal Minorities Development and Finance Corporation Act, 1995.

The Hooghly River Bridge Commissioners, constituted under the Hooghly River Bridge Act, 1969 (West Bengal Act No. 36 of 1969).

The Board of Wakf, West Bengal, a body constituted under the Wakf Act, 1995 (43 of 1995).

The State Fisheries Development Corporation Limited, West Bengal.

The West Bengal State Haj Committee, constituted under the Haj Committee Act, 2002 (35 of 2002).

The Asansol Durgapur Development Authority, West Bengal, a body constituted under the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 the (West Bengal Act No. 13 of 1979).

The West Bengal Pharmaceutical and Phytochemical Development Corporation Limited.

The West Bengal Handloom and Powerloom Development Corporation Limited.

The West Bengal Khadi and Village Industry Board.

The Society for Self-employment for Urban Youth, a society registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 (West Bengal Act No. 26 of 1961).

The Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanams Board.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, an authority constituted under section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985 (2 of 1986).

22. The National Agricultural Co-opeative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED).
23. The Indian Farmer Fertilizers Co-operative Limited (IFFCO).
24. The Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited (KRIBHCO).
25. The National Co-operative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF).
26. The Auroville Foundation established under sub-section (1) of section 10 of the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988 (54 of 1988).
27. The National Commission of Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector.
28. The Planning Board (Asiatic Society) established under sub-section (1) of section 8 of the Asiatic Society Act, 1984 (5 of 1984).
29. The Delhi Rural Development Board.
30. The Maulana Azad Education Foundation.
31. The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts.
32. The Dr. Ambedkar Foundation.
33. The Bihar State Board of Religious Trust, a body constituted under the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Act, 1950 (Bihar Act No. 1 of 1951).
34. The Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries.
35. The Indian Institute of Psychometry.
36. The Uttar Pradesh Film Development Council.
37. The Uttar Pradesh Provincial Co-operative Federation.
38. The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Federation Limited.
39. The National Co-operative Union of India.
40. The Uttar Pradesh Krishi and Gram Vikas Bank.
41. The Uttar Pradesh Co-opterative Bank Limited.
42. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations.
43. The Board of Control–A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna.
44. All India Council for Sports.
45. The Howrah Improvement Trust.
46. The Dalit Sena, 12, Janpath, New Delhi.

47. The Social Justice Trust, 12, Janpath, New Delhi.

48. The Bahujan Foundation (Charitable Trust), Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

49. The Bahujan Prerna Charitable Trust, Delhi.

50. The Central Wakf Council, established under section 9 of the Wakf Act, 1995 (43 of 1995).

51. The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML).

52. The Jalianwala Bagh Memorial Trust.

53. The Haj Committee of India constituted under section 3 of the Haj Committee Act, 2002 (35 of 2002).

54. The Mallickghat Phoolbazar Parichalan Committee.

55. The West Bengal Fisheries Corporation Limited.".

4. *Special provisions as to validation and other matters:* (*1*) Notwithstanding any judgment or order of any court or tribunal or any order or opinion of any other authority, the offices mentioned in clauses (*ad*), (*k*), (*l*) and (*m*) of section 3 of the principal Act shall not disqualify or shall be deemed never to have disqualified the holders thereof for being chosen as, or for being, a member of either House of Parliament as if the principal Act as amended by this Act had been in force at all material times.

(*2*) Nothing contained in sub-section (*1*) shall be construed as to entitle any person who has vacated a seat owing to any order or judgment as aforesaid, to claim any re-instatement or any other claim in that behalf.

(*3*) For the removal of doubts, it is hereby clarified that any petition or reference pending before any court or other authority on the date of commencement of this Act, shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

THE SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2006

An Act further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:–

1. *Short title and commencement:* (*1*) This Act may be called the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2006.

(*2*) Save as otherwise provided, it shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act.

2. *Amendment of section 3:* In section 3 of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),–

(*a*) for the words "at the rate of four thousand rupees per mensem" the words "at the rate of sixteen thousand rupees per mensem" shall be substituted;

(*b*) for the words "at the rate of four hundred rupees for each day" the words "at the rate of one thousand rupees for each day" shall be substituted;

(*c*) for the second and third provisos, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:–

"Provided further that the rates of salary and allowance specified in this section shall be applicable for a period of five years from the 14th day of September, 2006 or until it is refixed, whichever is later.".

3. *Amendment of section 4:* In section 4 of the principal Act, in sub-section (*1*),–

(*a*) in clause (*c*), in sub-clause (*ii*), for the words "at the rate of eight rupees per kilometre", the words "at the rate of thirteen rupees per kilometre" shall be substituted;

(*b*) after the second proviso, and before the *Explanation*, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:–

"Provided also that the rate specified in sub-clause (*ii*) of clause (*c*) of this sub-section shall be applicable for a period of five years from the date of commencement of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2006.";

(*c*) in sub-section (*2*), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided also that the first proviso shall not be applicable to a member who, in the opinion of the Chairman of the Council of States or, as the case may be, the Speaker of the House of the People, is so incapacitated physically and cannot travel by air or train.".

4. *Amendment section 5:* In section 5 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) in sub-section, (*1A*), for the words "seven days", the words "five days" shall be substituted;

(*b*) in sub-section, (*2*),–

(*i*) for the first proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:–

"Provided that the total number of such journeys under this sub-section shall be thirty-four journeys per year:";

(*ii*) in the second proviso, for the words "less than thirty-two", the words "less than thirty-four" shall be substituted;

(*iii*) in the third proviso, for the words "thirty-two journeys", the words "thirty-four journeys" shall be substituted;

(*iv*) after the third proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:–

"Provided also that in case any member avails a total number of journeys by air more than thirty-four, such journeys permissible to him, in the year, he may be allowed to adjust not exceeding eight such journeys from the entitled number of journeys which may accrue in his credit in the next following year.";

(*c*) after sub-section (*2*) and before *Explanation* I, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:–

"(*3*) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (*2*), there shall be paid to a member who, in the opinion of the Chairman of the Council of States or, as the case may be, the Speaker of the House of the People, is so incapacitated physically and therefore cannot perform air or train journey, road mileage for the entire road journey.";

(*d*) in *Explanation* III, for the words "thirty-two journeys", the words "thirty-four journeys" shall be substituted.

5. *Amendment of section 6D:* In section 6D of the principal Act, after clause (*ii*), the following clause shall be added and shall be deemed to have been added with effect from the 17th day of May, 2004, namely:–

"(*iii*) by road as is referred to in section 4 or section 5, be entitled to an amount equal to one road mileage.".

6. *Amendment of section 7.* In section 7 of the principal Act, for the words "seven days", the words "five days" shall be substituted.

7. *Amendment of section 8A:* In section 8A of the principal Act,—

(*a*) for sub-section (*1*) and the proviso thereto, the following shall be substituted, namely:–

"(*1*) With effect from the commencement of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2006, there shall be paid a pension of eight thousand rupees per mensem to every person who has served for any period as a member of the Provisional Parliament or either House of Parliament:

Provided that where a person has served as a member of the Provisional Parliament or either House of Parliament for a period exceeding five years, there shall be paid to him an additional pension of eight hundred rupees per mensem for every year served in excess of five years.";

(*b*) sub-section (*1A*) and the Explanation thereunder shall be omitted.

8. *Amendment of section 8AA:* Section 8AA of the principal Act shall be numbered as sub-section (*1*) thereof and after sub section (*1*) as so numbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:–

"(*2*) Every person who is not a sitting member but has served for any period as a member from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands or the Lakshadweep, shall be entitled to travel by the highest class of accommodation in any steamer sailing between the Andaman and Nicobar Islands or, as the case may be, the Lakshadweep and the main land territory of India in addition to the facilities available to such member under sub-section (*1*), without payment of any charges on the basis of an authorisation issued for this purpose by the Secretariat of either House of Parliament.".

9. *Insertion of new section 8AC:* After section 8AB of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:–

'8AC. *Family pension.* (*1*) On the death of a member of either House of Parliament during his term of office, his spouse, if any, or dependent of such member shall be paid during the remaining period of life of such spouse or, as the case may be, such dependent so long as such dependent continues to be a dependent within the meaning of clause (*aa*) of section 2, family pension equivalent to one-half of the pension which such member of Parliament would have received had he retired:

Provided that no such family pension shall be payable to a dependent if such dependent is a sitting member of Parliament or is drawing pension under section 8A.

(*2*) The family pension payable under sub-section (*1*) shall also be payable to the spouse or dependent of a person who was a member of either House of Parliament or the Provisional Parliament at any time before the commencement of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2006 and died after serving as such member:

Provided that such spouse or dependent is not drawing any pension under this Act or is not entitled to draw family pension under the proviso to sub-section (*1*):

Provided further that no person shall be entitled to claim arrears of any family pension under this sub-section in respect of a period before the commencement of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2006.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section, "Provisional Parliament" shall include the body which functioned as the Constituent Assembly of the Dominion of India immediately before the commencement of the Constitution.'.

THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2006

An Act further to amend the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:–

1. *Short title and commencement:* (*1*) This Act may be called the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006.

(*2*) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. *Amendment of section 2:* In section 2 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in sub-section (*1*),–

(*a*) for clause (*f*), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:–

'(*f*) "International Covenants means the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on the 16th December, 1966 and such other Covenant or Convention adopted by

the General Assembly of the United Nations as the Central Government may, by notification, specify;';

(*b*) for clause (*g*), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:–

'(*g*) "Member" means a Member of the Commission or of the State Commission, as the case may be;';

(*c*) for clause (*i*), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:–

'(*i*) "National Commission for the Scheduled Castes" means the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes referred to in article 338 of the Constitution;

(*ia*) "National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes" means the National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes referred to in article 338A of the Constitution;'.

3. *Amendment of section 3:* In section 3 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) in sub-section (*3*), for the words "the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes", the words "the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes, the National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes" shall be substituted;

(*b*) in sub-section (*4*), for the words "as it may delegate to him", the brackets, words, figures and letter "(except judicial functions and the power to make regulations under section 40B) as may be delegated to him by the Commission or the Chairperson, as the case may be" shall be substituted.

4. *Amendment of section 4:* In section 4 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) in sub-section (*1*), for the words "other Members", the words "the Members" shall be substituted;

(*b*) in sub-section (*2*), for the words "vacancy in the Committee", the words, brackets and figure "vacancy of any member in the Committee referred to in the first proviso to sub-section (*1*)" shall be substituted.

5. *Substitution of new section for section 5:* For section 5 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

"5. *Resignation and removal of Chairperson and Members.* (*1*) The Chairperson or any Member may, by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the President of India, resign his office.

(*2*) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (*3*), the Chairperson, or any Member shall only be removed from his office by order of the President of India on the ground of proved

misbehaviour or incapacity after the Supreme Court, on reference being made to it by the President, has, on inquiry held in accordance with the procedure prescribed in that behalf by the Supreme Court, reported that the Chairperson or the Member, as the case may be, ought on any such ground to be removed.

(*3*) Notwithstanding anything in sub-section (*2*), the President may, by order, remove from office the Chairperson or any Member if the Chairperson or such Member, as the case may be,–

(*a*) is adjudged an insolvent; or

(*b*) engages during his term of office in any paid employment outside the duties of his office; or

(*c*) is unfit to continue in office by reason of infirmity of mind or body; or

(*d*) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court; or

(*e*) is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for an offence which in the opinion of the President involves moral turpitude.".

6. *Substitution of new section for section 6:* For section 6 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

"6. *Term of office of Chairperson and Members. (1)* A person appointed as Chairperson shall hold office for a term of five year from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier.

(*2*) A person appointed as a Member shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office and shall be eligible for re-appointment for another term of five years:

Provided that no Member shall hold office after he has attained the age of seventy years.

(*3*) On ceasing to hold office, a Chairperson or a Member shall be ineligible for further employment under the Government of India or under the Government of any State.".

7. *Substitution of new section for section 8:* For section 8 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

"8. The salaries and allowances payable to, and the other terms and conditions of service of, the Chairperson and Members shall be such as may be prescribed:–

Provided that neither the salary and allowances nor the other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson or a Member shall be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.".

8. *Amendment of section 10:* In section 10 of the principal Act, for sub-section (*2*), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:–

"(*2*) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the Commission shall have the power to lay down by regulations its own procedure.".

9. *Amendment of section 12:* In section 12 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) in clause (*a*), after the words "or any person on his behalf", the words "or on a direction or order of any court" shall be inserted;

(*b*) for clause (*c*), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:–

"(*c*) visit, notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, any jail or other institution under the control of the State Government, where persons are detained or lodged for purposes of treatment, reformation or protection, for the study of the living conditions of the inmates thereof and make recommendations thereon to the Government;".

10. *Amendment of section 13:* In section 13 of the principal Act, after sub-section (*5*), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:–

"(*6*) Where the Commission considers it necessary or expedient so to do, it may, by order, transfer any complaint filed or pending before it to the State Commission of the State from which the complaint arises, for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this Act:

Provided that no such complaint shall be transferred unless the same is one respecting which the State Commission has jurisdiction to entertain the same.

(*7*) Every complaint transferred under sub-section (*6*) shall be dealt with and disposed of by the State Commission as if it were a complaint initially filed before it.".

11. *Substitution of new section for section 18:* For section 18 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

"18. *Steps during and after inquiry.* The Commission may take any of the following steps during or upon the completion of an inquiry held under this Act, namely:–

(*a*) where the inquiry discloses the commission of violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of violation of human rights or abetment thereof by a public servant, it may recommend to the concerned Government or authority;

(*i*) to make payment of compensation or damages to the complainant or to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary;

(*ii*) to initiate proceedings for prosecution or such other suitable action as the Commission may deem fit against the concerned person or person;

(*iii*) to take such further action as it may think fit;

(*b*) approach the Supreme Court or the High Court concerned for such directions, orders or writs as that Court may deem necessary;

(*c*) recommend to the concerned Government or authority at any stage of the inquiry for the grant of such immediate interim relief to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary;

(*d*) subject to the provisions of clause (*e*), provide a copy of the inquiry report to the petitioner or his representative;

(*e*) the Commission shall send a copy of its inquiry report together with its recommendations to the concerned Government or authority and the concerned Government or authority shall, within a period of one month, or such further time as the Commission may allow, forward its comments on the report, including the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon, to the Commission;

(*f*) the Commission shall publish its inquiry report together with the comments of the concerned Government or authority, if any, and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the concerned Government or authority on the recommendations of the Commission.".

12. *Amendment of section 21:* In section 21 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) for sub-section (*2*), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:–

"(*2*) The State Commission shall, with effect from such date as the State Government may by notification specify, consist of–

(*a*) a Chairperson who has been a Chief Justice of a High Court;

(*b*) one Member who is, or has been, a Judge of a High Court or District Judge in the State with a minimum of seven years experience as District Judge;

(*c*) one Member to be appointed from among persons having knowledge of or practical experience in matters relating to human rights.".

(*b*) after sub-section (*5*), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:–

"(*6*) Two or more State Governments may, with the consent of a Chairperson or Member of a State Commission, appoint such Chairperson or, as the case may be, such Member of another State Commission simultaneously if such Chairperson or Member consents to such appointment:

Provided that every appointment made under this sub-section shall be made after obtaining the recommendations of the Committee referred to in sub-section (*1*) of section 22 in respect of the State for which a common Chairperson or Member, or both, as the case may be, is to be appointed.".

13. *Amendment of section 22:* In section 22 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) In the marginal heading for the words "other Members", the word "Members" shall be substituted;

(*b*) in sub-section (*1*), for the words "other Members", the word "Members" shall be substituted;

(*c*) in sub-section (*2*), for the words "any vacancy in the Committee", the words, brackets and figure "any vacancy of any Member in the Committee referred to in sub-section (*1*)" shall be substituted.

14. *Amendment of section 23:* In section 23 of the principal Act,–

(*a*) for the marginal heading "Removal of a Member of the State Commission", the marginal heading "Resignation and Removal of Chairperson or a Member of the State Commission", shall be substituted;

(*b*) for sub-section (*1*), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:–

"(*1*) The Chairperson or a Member of a State Commission may, by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Governor, resign his office.

(*1A*) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (*2*), the Chairperson or any Member of the State Commission shall only be removed from his office by order of the President on the ground of proved misbehaviour or

incapacity after the Supreme Court, on a reference being made to it by the President, has, on inquiry held in accordance with the procedure prescribed in that behalf by the Supreme Court, reported that the Chairperson or such Member, as the case may be, ought on any such ground to be removed.";

(*c*) in sub-section (*2*),–

(*a*) for the word, brackets and figure "sub-section (*1*)", the word, brackets, figure and letter "sub-section (1A)" shall be substituted;

(*b*) for the words "other Member" at both the places where they occur, the word "Member" shall be substituted.

15. *Substitution of new section for section 24:* For section 24 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

"24. *Term of office of Chairperson and Members of the State Commission.* (*1*) A person appointed as Chairperson shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier.

(*2*) A person appointed as a Member shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office and shall be eligible for re-appointment for another term of five years:

Provided that no Member shall hold office after he has attained the age of seventy years.

(*3*) On ceasing to hold office, a Chairperson or a Member shall be ineligible for further employment under the Government of a State or under the Government of India.".

16. *Substitution of new section for section 26:* For section 26 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:–

"26. *Terms and conditions of service of Chairperson and Members of State Commissions.* The salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of, the Chairperson and Members shall be such as may be prescribed by the State Government:

Provided that neither the salary and allowances nor the other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson or a Member shall be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.".

17. *Amendment of section 40:* In section 40 of the principal Act, in sub-section (*2*), in clause (*a*), for the word "Members", the words "Chairperson and Members" shall be substituted.

18. *Insertion of new section 40B:* After section 40A of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:–

"40B. *Power of Commission to make regulations.* (*1*) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the Commission may, with the previous approval of the Central Government, by notification, make regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(*2*) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:–

(*a*) the procedure to be followed by the Commission under sub-section (*2*) of section 10;

(*b*) the returns and statistics to be furnished by the State Commissions;

(*c*) any other matter which has to be, or may be, specified by regulations.

(*3*) Every regulation made by the Commission under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the regulation or both Houses agree that the regulation should not be made, the regulation shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that regulation.".

19. *Amendment of section 41:* In section 41 of the principal Act, in sub-section (*2*), in clause (a), for the words "the Members", the words "the Chairperson and Members" shall be substituted.

THE PONDICHERRY (ALTERATION OF NAME) ACT, 2006

An Act to alter the name of the Union territory of Pondicherry.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:–

1. *Short title and commencement:* (*1*) This Act may be called the Pondicherry (Alteration of Name) Act, 2006.

(*2*) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. *Definitions:* In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,–

(*a*) "appointed day" means the date appointed under sub-section (2) of section 1 for the coming into force of this Act;

(*b*) "appropriate Government" means the Central Government, and as respects a law relating to a matter enumerated in the State List or the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution in so far as any such matter is applicable in relation to the Union territory of Puducherry, also the administrator of the Union territory of Puducherry;

(*c*) "law" includes any enactment, Ordinance, regulation, order, bye-law, rule, scheme, notification or other instrument having force of law in the whole or any part of the Union territory of Pondicherry.

3. *Alteration of name of the Union territory of Pondicherry:* As from the appointed day, the Union territory of Pondicherry shall be known as the Union territory of Puducherry.

4. *Amendment of Part VIII of the Constitution:* In Part VIII of the Constitution, for the word "Pondicherry", wherever it occurs, the word "Puducherry" shall be substituted.

5. *Amendment of First Schedule to the Constitution:* In the First Schedule to the Constitution, under the heading "II. THE UNION TERRITORIES", in entry 6, under the column 'Name", for the word Pondicherry", the word "Puducherry" shall be substituted.

6. *Amendment of Fourth Schedule to the Constitution:* In the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, under the heading "TABLE", in entry 30, in the second column, for the word "Pondicherry", the word "Puducherry" shall be substituted.

7. *Amendment of section 2 of Act 20 of 1963:* In the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, in section 2, in sub-section (*1*), in clause (*h*), for the word "Pondicherry the word "Puducherry shall be substituted.

8. *Power to adapt laws:* (*1*) For the purpose of giving effect to the alteration of the name of the Union territory of Pondicherry by section 3, the appropriate Government may, before the expiration of one year from the appointed day, by order, make such adaptations and modifications of any law made before the appointed day, whether by way of repcal or amendment, as may be necessary or expedient, and

thereupon every such law shall have effect subject to the adaptations and modifications so made.

(*2*) Nothing in sub-section (*1*) shall be deemed to prevent Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry or other competent authority from repealing or amending any law adapted or modified by the appropriate Government under the said sub-section.

9. *Power of construe laws:* Notwithstanding that no provision or insufficient provision has been made under section 8 for the adaptation of a law made before the appointed day, any court, tribunal or authority, required or empowered to enforce such law, may construe the law in such manner, without affecting the substance, as may be necessary or proper in regard to the matter before the court, tribunal or authority.

10. *Legal proceedings:* Where immediately before the appointed day any legal proceedings are pending to which the administrator of the Union territory of Pondicherry is a party, or the Union of India represented by the said administrator is a party, then, for the purposes of those proceedings, any reference to the administrator of the Union territory of Pondicherry shall be construed as a reference to the administrator of the Union territory of Puducherry.

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SESSIONAL REVIEW

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

EIGHTH SESSION

The Eighth Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 24 July 2006 and was adjourned *sine die* on 25 August 2006. The House was prorogued on 30 August 2006. In all, the House sat for 22 days. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period from 24 July to 25 August 2006 is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS / STATEMENTS

Motion for Adjournment regarding failure of the Government to ensure the security of the lives of the innocent citizens from planned terrorist violence in various parts of the country as has been sharply highlighted by the recent serial bomb blasts in several local trains in Mumbai on 11 July 2006 killing more than 200 people and injuring over 700 people: Moving the Motion for Adjournment on 25 July 2006, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri L.K Advani (BJP) said that the incident which occurred in Mumbai on 11 July was not an ordinary incident but a carpet bombing of the lifeline of Mumbai. There was no country in the world other than India which had to fight terrorism for such a long period of over 25 years. He said that the present Government repealed POTA immediately after coming to power as part of its Common Minimum Programme. However, it had utterly failed in containing terrorism. It was only extraordinary special laws like POTA which could ensure that an evil like terrorism was effectively curbed. He alleged that the Government did not pursue the information it got in the Mumbai blasts and that the terrorists who were nabbed so far had not been interrogated properly. He said that the Government had to work with the support of the public to combat terrorism and the public should also be united.

Participating in the discussion*, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi said that he opposed the Adjournment Motion brought by the Leader of Opposition, Shri L.K. Advani. He said that every party had condemned the terrorist attack that took place in Mumbai. Referring to the issue regarding enforcement of POTA by the earlier Government, he said that POTA was enforced not with the intention to fight terrorism. Had it been so, terrorist incidents would not have taken place. He stated that the present Government and the people were well equipped to fight terrorism. The Government would not merely fight it politically; it would make it a war of the public against terrorism. It was also committed to root out all those patronizing terrorism inside and outside India.

The Minister of Railways, Shri Lalu Prasad announced an *ex-gratia* payment of rupees five lakh to the families of the deceased and further payment of rupees four lakh on filing of claim in the tribunal. He informed that the Chief Minister of Maharashtra also announced a sum of rupees one lakh to the families of the deceased. In all, every family of the deceased was assured rupees ten lakh and a job. All the injured persons were also assured of jobs and the expenses for their medical treatment were to be borne by the Railways.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (Shiv Sena) requested the Home Minister to place before the House the list of the terrorist attacks that were carried out in different States so far along with the action taken by the police in regard thereto.

Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy (BJD) said that the country was witnessing the evil of terrorism for the last 26 years. He was hopeful that good sense would prevail and the Government would come out with a solution to combat terrorism and to save the country.

Prof. M. Ramadass (PMK) said that it was for all the citizens to cultivate a tempo of communal harmony and the Government on its part should take more stringent measures in terms of strengthening the intelligence agencies.

Shri K. Yerrannaidu (TDP) said that it was the responsibility of the Government to consult all the political parties and take them along to motivate all sections of the people to fight unitedly against terrorism.

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Mohan Singh, A.K.S. Vijayan, Madhusudan Mistry, Harin Pathak, C.K. Chandrappan, A.R. Shaheen, Chandrakant Khaire, Mohammad Salim, Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala and Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan

Km. Mamata Banerjee (AITC) condemning the serial bomb blasts suggested that there should be some coordination between the Centre, States and other different agencies so that another incident of such kind could be averted.

Shri L. Ganesan (MDMK) requested the Leader of Opposition, Shri Advani not to press for his Motion of Adjournment and said that the one and only way to fight against terrorism was through unity.

Shri Subrata Bose (AIFB) suggested that the Government should take steps to improve and fortify the intelligence agencies all over the country, particularly the Central forces.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that terrorists today were adopting new technologies, new methods on the lines of the military. In order to defeat them, training of the Police and Army personnel and the youth was necessary. He said that terrorism was not restricted to the borders alone, rather it was spreading to hinterland and internal parts of the country. The Government had fenced the Indo-Pak as well as Indo-Bangladesh border. However, it had not fenced the borders of other countries. The para-military forces were preventing entry of the terrorist into the country. The Government had taken steps including security arrangement on the coastline to combat terrorism. Steps were also being taken to strengthen the security arrangements on the sub coastline under which new police stations would be established. In respect of POTA, the Minister said that the most objectionable thing in POTA was that the onus of proof was shifted from the prosecution to the defence. Since POTA was being more misused, the Government considered it proper to withdraw it. The Minister emphasised on cooperation between the Centre and the State Governments and also sought the cooperation of the political parties, State Governments, Non-Governmental organisations and individuals in the fight against terrorism.

Replying to the discussion, the Leader of Opposition, Shri L.K. Advani said that an Adjournment Motion was never intended to divide the House but to point out that the legal machinery was not adequate. Only POTA had a provision which imposed restrictions on the financial support to these organisations. He said that his party had never accused any particular community of being a terrorist. He felt that the reply given to the debate was not satisfactory and that something much more was needed to fight terrorism more effectively.

The Motion was negatived.

Statement by the Prime Minister regarding the situation in Lebanon: Making a statement in the House in this regard on 27 July 2006, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that members were aware of the current situation in Lebanon and taking into account their concern, he apprised the House of the current situation there and India's response to the evolving situation, especially the efforts made to aid and assist the Indian nationals who had become victims of the escalating crisis in Lebanon.

The Prime Minister stated that West Asia was India's extended neighbourhood and tensions in that region would affect India's security and vital interests. India had been seriously concerned about the escalation of conflict between Israel and the Hezbollah cadres extending across the Lebanon-Israel border. He said that on 12 July, India had condemned the abduction of two Israeli soldiers by the Hezbollah cadres and called for their immediate release. Simultaneously, it had condemned the excessive and disproportionate military retaliation by Israel. It also condemned the attacks that led to the death of the four United Nations Observers in Lebanon. India had also condemned the wholly unjustified arrest and continuing detention of the Ministers of the Palestinian National Authority and the members of the Palestinian Legislative Council. In response to the appeal issued by the Government of Lebanon, the Government of India had decided to contribute Rs.10 crore for the humanitarian and relief efforts to rebuild Lebanon.

The Prime Minister said that the safety and welfare of the Indian nationals who were residents in that country had been the Government's foremost concern. On 17 July, anticipating a further deterioration in the security situation, an advisory was issued to all the Indian nationals, particularly those living in Southern Lebanon, to take suitable precautions regarding their personal safety. Consultations were initiated to work out solutions on how to facilitate the return of those in Lebanon desirous of doing so. All Indian nationals had been advised to remain in contact with the Embassy of India in Beirut. Four Indian Naval ships—INS Mumbai, INS Brahmaputra, INS Betwa and INS Shakti which were in the Red Sea—were directed to Beirut to assist in the evacuation. The first evacuation effort was undertaken on 21 July 2006 and 598 Indian nationals, and as a humanitarian gesture, nationals from Nepal, Lebanon and Sri Lanka, were evacuated by INS Mumbai from Beirut to Larcana in Cyprus. From Larcana, Air India arranged two aircraft to ferry the evacuated Indians to Mumbai and Chennai. A second evacuation out of Beirut was undertaken on 24 July. This comprised 887 people including 784 Indians, 41 from Nepal, 57 from Sri Lanka and five Lebanese nationals. All Indian nationals, and nationals

from Nepal and Sri Lanka were airlifted from Larcana to India and arrived safely. A third phase of evacuation was completed on 26 July, bringing the total number of those evacuated to 1,870, including 1,687 Indian nationals.

The Prime Minister stated that there were approximately 12,000 Indian nationals in Lebanon at the time of the outbreak of hostilities. They were mostly semi-skilled and unskilled workers in farms and factories. Among them, a large number had not indicated their desire to leave Lebanon. The Government had so far received confirmation of the death of one Indian national in an air strike on a glass factory in Bekka valley. For the time being, Indian naval vessels would continue to be in the region in case they were required for service by the Indian nationals. Any further evacuations would be planned, taking into account the ground situation in Lebanon. India also had a contingent of 672 Indian officers and soldiers as part of the UN peace-keeping forces in Lebanon (UNFIL). They were safe, though currently confined to their barracks. The Prime Minister also placed on record his appreciation for the efforts of various Ministries, Departments and agencies of the Government for their swift and successful response in helping the fellow citizens in distress.

Discussion under Rule 193 regarding rise in prices of essential commodities: A discussion in this regard took place in the House on 27 and 28 July 2006. Initiating the discussion on 27 July 2006, Dr. Chinta Mohan of the Indian National Congress said that the rise in the international price of crude oil had pushed up the prices of cement, steel and other essential commodities and price rise was affecting the common man. Today, the common man's interest lay in about 70 essential commodities and out of that, prices of some essential commodities had gone up. He requested the Government to set up Vigilance and Monitoring Committees to strengthen the PDS and to see that subsidised rice, wheat, kerosene and whatever was given to the poor people reach them directly.

Participating in the discussion* Shri Basudeb Acharia (CPI-M)

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ramji Lal Suman, Devendra Prasad Yadav, K.C. Pallani Shamy, Brajesh Pathak, C.K. Chandrappan, Adhir Chowdhury, Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan', N.N. Krishnadas, Shailendra Kumar, M. Shivanna, Ganesh Singh, K.S. Rao, Ram Kripal Yadav, Ravi Prakash Verma, P.S. Gadhavi, Sunil Kumar Mahato, Tapir Gao, Ch. Lal Singh, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Dr. M. Jagannath, Dr. C. Krishnan, Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam, Smt. Kiran Maheshwari, Smt. Paramjit Kaur Gulshan, Smt. Tejaswini Seeramesh and Smt. Neeta Pateriya

expressed his apprehension that rise in prices would continue if some concrete measures were not taken. To make the goods available at reasonable prices, he said that the Government need to strengthen the Public Distribution System.

Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy (BJD) suggested that the Government should carefully monitor the price levels of essential commodities and take measures to check the same.

Prof. M. Ramadass (PMK) said that an increase in the growth rate of an economy even by one per cent was always accompanied by seven per cent increase in prices. Therefore, the present rise in prices could not be attributed to the mismanagement of the policies of the Government.

Km. Mamata Banerjee (AITC) suggested that there must be a monitoring system to control the price hike and the Government must bring a comprehensive and uniform price policy.

Shri Joachim Baxla (RSP) urged the Government to implement the Common Minimum Programme and fulfil all the promises made therein so that the common man could get relief.

Replying to the discussion on 28 July 2006, the Minister of Finance, Shri P. Chidambaram stated that Wholesale Price Index (WPI) rose and fell for a variety of reasons. The two main reasons were cost-push inflation and demand-pull inflation. He said that the Government was taking steps to moderate cost-push inflation and demand-pull inflation. On cost-push inflation, it was taking steps on the fiscal side. The Government had cut customs and excise duties. On the demand-pull inflation side, he said that monetary steps were being taken.

The Minister said that the other and more important reason with which the Government was directly concerned today was supply shocks. Three essential commodities *i.e.,* wheat, pulses and sugar whose production had declined had driven the price rise. The only way in which prices could come down in the retail market of essential commodities was to augment supply of these commodities. On PDS, he said that there had been no reduction in the allocation of rice and wheat taken together. On the issue relating to petroleum, the Minister said that there was a misconception that the petroleum prices really did not hurt the Government and that it gave the Government a bonanza. The bulk of the burden, he said, was borne by the Government and the oil companies. The Minister assured the House that the Government was acutely conscious of the responsibility that prices must be moderated and that it would take necessary steps. He requested the members not

to spread the psychology of scarcity or a sense of alarm and assured that prices would be moderated in the future by taking fiscal measures.

Discussion under Rule 193 regarding Indo-US Nuclear Agreement: Initiating a discussion in this regard in the House on 23 August 2006, Shri Basudeb Acharia of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) said that under the Constitution, the Indian Parliament did not have any power with regard to the ratification of any international agreement but the American Parliament had the power. Since Independence, India had been pursuing an independent foreign policy but extraneous provisions were being incorporated in the Bill. If these provisions were incorporated in the Act, it might hamper India's research and development in atomic and nuclear energy. It was important for the Indian Parliament to work out and insist on ground rules for nuclear deals at this stage itself. He requested the Prime Minister to include in his reply the sense of the House, the concerns expressed by the members with regard to departure, with regard to certain conditionalities that were being imposed, with regard to India's research and development in nuclear power, its independent foreign policy and the policy which India was pursuing.

Participating in the discussion,* the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Anand Sharma said that the Agreement which India would sign would be within the templates of July 18 Agreement. He said that the Government was not disputing that hydel potential should not be exploited, bio-energy should not be explored, and renewable means of energy should not be accessed to. But what India would need for its energy security would be an ideal energy mix, an ideal fuel mix, which must also include the nuclear energy.

Replying to the discussion, the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the debate had clearly shown that when the question of safeguarding India's supreme national interests arose, the nation spoke in one voice. Speaking of India's energy requirements, the Prime Minister said that India would require increasing amount of energy if her struggle for economic and social development were to succeed. On a number of questions that had been raised with regard to India's fast breeder programme, he assured the House that proto type fast breeder programme would be totally kept out of the purview of any surveillance

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Mohan Singh, Devendra Prasad Yadav, Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Bhartruhari Mahtab, C.K. Chandrappan, Vijayendra Pal Singh and Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri

by any agency and nothing would be done to impinge on its autonomy. Regarding the three-stage nuclear fuel cycle, the Prime Minister said that there was nothing in the deal which said that India would give up the three-tier fuel cycle. The programme to pursue research in thorium-related technology would not be compromised.

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh stated that India had not agreed to any moratorium on the production of fissile material. All that it had agreed to was to work for negotiated multilaterally verifiable treaty in this regard. The July 2005 Statement acknowledged that India should be regarded as a State with advanced nuclear technology enjoying the same benefits and advantages that other States with nuclear technology, such as the United States enjoyed. It did not refer to India as a Nuclear Weapon State as this had a particular connotation in the NPT. It, however, explicitly acknowledged the existence of India's military nuclear facility. Referring to the Separation Plan, he said that it provided for India Specific Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA. There was no question of a separate agreement in this regard with the United States with assurances of uninterrupted supply of fuels to reactors together with India's right to take corrective measures, in the event fuel supplies were interrupted. All precautions had been taken in working out the Separation Plan. So far as CIRUS and APSARA reactors were concerned, the Prime Minister said that in his statement of 7 March 2006, he had explained the rationale why India had agreed to those provisions in the Separation Plan. The CIRUS reactors would be permanently shut down in 2010. The Fuel Core of the APSARA was purchased from France and India had indicated its willingness to shift it from the present location and make it available for placing under safeguards in 2010. CIRUS and APSARA were located in the Bhabha Atomic Energy Centre and India did not want the Bhabha Atomic Energy Centre to be subject to any of these safeguards. These steps did not impact at all on the needs of India's strategic programme nor would they hinder on-going research and development.

Regarding detonation of nuclear tests in the future, the Prime Minister said that India had made it quite clear to the United States that it was not willing to give any commitment about the future tests. All that India would sign with the IAEA was India-specific safeguards agreement. No legislature of a foreign country could bind the country and the sole consideration for India would be her own perception of national interest. The Government would do nothing which would compromise the integrity of India's strategic programme. The decision

about strategic programme would be determined only by the people, by the Government, by the Parliament. India did not have the status of a nuclear weapons State and it was free to build new reactors and new facilities. He reiterated that it was India's prerogative to call them civilian or military and India's options were not being limited.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006:* The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006 was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 16 and 17 May 2006, respectively. The President returned the Bill to the Houses of Parliament for reconsideration on 30 May 2006. The Bill was reconsidered and passed again by the Rajya Sabha on 27 July 2006. Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill in the House on 31 July 2006, the Minister of Law and Justice, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj said that the President had raised general points for consideration of Parliament, firstly, to evolve a generic and comprehensive criteria which were just, fair and reasonable and could be applied across all States and Union territories in a clear and transparent manner. Secondly, the implications of including for exemption the names of office, the holding of which was alleged to disqualify a member and in relation to which petitions for disqualification were already under process by the competent authority. Thirdly, soundness and propriety of law in making applicability of the amendment retrospectively.

In terms of the constitutional provisions, the Minister said that the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 specified certain offices such as Office of Leader of Opposition; Office of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission; Office of Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, etc. In 1998, the office of Leader of a recognized party and recognized group was declared an office not to disqualify its holder. In 2000, the Deputy Leader of the Recognized Party and Recognized Group in either House of Parliament were added. The Minister said that the proposal to evolve a generic and comprehensive criteria which were just, fair and reasonable and could be applied across all the States and all the Union territories in a clear and transparent manner was a challenging and daunting task. It required fine balance between the relationship of Centre and the States in case a generic and comprehensive criteria was to be evolved

* The Bill, as passed again by the Rajya Sabha, was laid on the Table of the House on 28 July 2006

across the States. He said that the members of the Rajya Sabha had carefully considered the message of the President and the provisions of the Bill, and passed the Bill again. He commended the Bill for the consideration of the august House.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Ocean Development, Shri Kapil Sibal referred to the points raised by the President and said that it was very difficult for the Government to evolve a generic criteria which was fair, just and reasonable which would apply to posts across the country. As such, a legislation, specific to such posts which were held by the members of Parliament or members of the State Legislature which were offices of profit in the Government had to be made.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Rajesh Verma (BSP) said that in the present circumstances, a discussion was required in the House clarifying meaning of holding of some posts and some amendments were also required therein. He said that all complications would be resolved in future by passing the Bill.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (Shiv Sena) stated that the President returned the Bill for reconsideration which showed that he was not in agreement with the Bill and that a mistake had been committed by misusing power to save some prominent members and big leaders.

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta (CPI) said that the Bill was being enacted to protect the political stability of the present equation of forces and to prevent destabilisation and the gamble for power unconstitutionally and illegally, well beyond the norms of parliamentary democracy.

Km. Mamata Banerjee (AITC) alleged that the Bill was hurriedly brought in to save the Government. When the matter was pending before the Election Commission, she felt that it was not the right time to pass the Bill.

Shri K. Yerrannaidu (TDP) said that the House was required to give a comprehensive definition about the office of profit and also its opinion on other matters referred to by the Rashtrapatiji. After that, the House could unanimously pass the Bill.

Shri Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa (SAD) questioned the necessity of getting the Bill passed so hastily, the same day. He wanted that a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be formed to discuss the Bill.

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ananth Kumar, Mohan Singh, Rupchand Pal, Ganesh Prasad Singh, Prasanna Acharya, George Fernandes, Uday Singh, Kunwar Manvendra Singh and Smt. M.S.K. Bhavani Rajenthiran

Prof. M. Ramadass (PMK) supported the Bill and said that it was within the ambit of the constitutional provisions and also the Act of 1959. The Constitution had clearly said that it could give exemption to an office of profit and the Bill had precisely given this exemption.

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi (AIMIM) said that parliamentarians and legislators were expected to aid and advise the public institutions and trusts so that the institutions could function effectively for the welfare and well being of the people of the country at large.

Shri L.K. Advani (BJP) said that the Constitution provided that the Parliament could decide which office was to be exempted from the purview of the office of profit. So, it was the office which was exempted and not the person holding the office. However, he said that no one referred to the fact that the Supreme Court had emphasised that the power of Parliament to exempt any particular office was not unlimited. It was for the first time in 58 years that the President was invoking article 111 of the Constitution. It was an embarrassment to Parliament. Therefore, he appealed to the Government to reconsider the matter.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Law and Justice, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj said that the President sent the message to the House under article 111, and it was very important to give due consideration to the message. He said that article 102 which prohibited the members from holding an office of profit also permitted both the Houses of Parliament to exempt them. He pointed out that exemptions were given in the past. The Parliament was well within its rights to exempt offices of profit under the power vested in it and the House was well within its power to consider the Bill and pass it again. He assured the House that the Government would be ready to appoint a Committee of both the Houses to go into it again and see whether a proper definition or amendment to the present dispensation could be made. He said that all the laws were subject to judicial review and even Constitutional Amendments were subject to judicial review. However, this did not mean that if something got struck down the Parliament should become defunct.

The Bill, as passed again by the Rajya Sabha, was passed.

*The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2006**: The Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances

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* The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22 August 2006

of Members of Parliament in its Report dated 22 May 2006 had made certain recommendations regarding increase in the salary, daily allowance and the other facilities to which the members of Parliament were entitled to, pension payable to former members of Parliament and family pension to the spouse or dependent of the members of Parliament and former members of Parliament after the demise of such members of Parliament/former members of Parliament. After considering the said Report, it was proposed to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 for giving effect to the aforesaid proposals.

Among others, the Bill sought to: enhance the salary of members of Parliament from Rs.12,000 to Rs.16,000 per month for a period of five years from 14 September 2006; enhance the allowance payable to the members of Parliament during any period of residence on duty from Rs.500 to Rs.1000 for each day of duty for a period of five years from 14 September 2006; enhance the rate of road mileage in respect of every journey performed in India for the purpose of attending session of a House of Parliament or a meeting of a Parliamentary Committee or for the purpose of attending to any other business connected with his duties as a member of Parliament from Rs.8 to Rs.13 per kilometre for a period of five years from the enactment of the proposed legislation; allow a physically incapacitated member of Parliament who could not travel by air and rail to travel by road; enhance thirty-two single air journeys to which a member of Parliament is entitled to avail in a year to thirty-four single air journeys in a year; enhance the pension of Rs.3,000 per month available to a former member of Parliament to Rs.6,000 and the additional pension of Rs.600 per month payable to them for every year in excess of five years membership Rs.800; increase the family pension payable to the spouse or dependent of a member of Parliament dying during his term of office from Rs.1,500 per month to Rs.3,000 for life as against only for a period of five years only as at present etc.

Initiating a discussion on the Bill in the House on 23 August 2006, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta of the Communist Party of India suggested that there should be a mechanism for the improvement of the salary and allowances of members because the increase in salary by the law makers themselves would not be looked upon in a nice way by the people. In the country, there was serious economic distress and the members were pleading for austerity. In such situation if members do that, it would have a bad effect on the people, he added.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Basudeb Acharia (CPI-M) suggested that instead of increasing the salary and allowances, other facilities should be augmented so that the members of Parliament could function efficiently.

Kumari Mamata Banerjee (AITC) stated that the MPs should not frame laws for themselves but an independent committee should be formed in this regard.

Shri Prabhunath Singh (JD-U) requested the Government to include a small amendment in the Bill so that if any member wanted to avail salary and allowances at the old rate, they should be given the permission to do so.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi said that MPs in India represented the largest numbers of the electorates in the world. To serve the people in the best possible manner, it had to be made sure that the members were supported to the extent the nation could afford. The Government was not doing a special favour to the MPs or a special patronage to the MPs but was giving just the required bare minimum as supported by the Joint Committee. He requested the House to accept the recommendations and the provisions of the Bill, and the Rules thereunder.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

*The Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006***: A discussion on the Bill took place in the House on 23 and 24 August 2006. Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 23 August 2006, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal said that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was set up in October 1993, under the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, for promotion and protection of human rights in the country. In May 1998, the NHRC set up an Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice A.M. Ahmedi, former Chief Justice of India,

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Mohan Singh, Ram Kripal Yadav, Brajesh Pathak, Prasanna Acharya, Sukhdev Singh Libra, Sanat Kumar Mandal and Varkala Radhakrishnan

** The Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, was laid on the Table of the House on 8 August 2006

to assess the need for structural changes and amendments in the Act. The amendments suggested by the Advisory Committee were examined by an Inter-Ministerial Committee which made recommendations to the Government for amendments. The Government considered these recommendations and introduced the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2005 in the Rajya Sabha on 8 December 2005. The Bill was referred by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha to the Departmentally-related Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination which suggested certain modifications. The Government, after consideration, had accepted the modifications suggested by the Standing Committee.

The Bill, *inter alia*, sought to: make judges of the Supreme Court with at least three years service as such to be eligible to be appointed as the Chairperson of the NHRC; make judges of the High Courts with at least five years of service as such to be eligible to be appointed as Chairperson of the SHRCs; and a District Judge with at least seven years of experience in that capacity to be a member of the SHRC; enable the NHRC to transfer complaints received by it to the concerned SHRC; enable the NHRC to visit any jail or detention centre without prior intimation to the State Government; enable the NHRC and the SHRCs to make interim recommendations during an inquiry; empower the NHRC and its Chairperson to delegate certain powers and functions of the Commission to the Secretary-General of the NHRC; provide that the Chairperson of the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes and the Chairperson of the National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes shall be deemed to be the Members of the NHRC, etc.

Participating in the discussion* on 24 August 2006, Shri K. Yerrannaidu (TDP) requested the Government to include the chairpersons of the National Women's Commission and the National Minorities Commission as members in the NHRC.

Km. Mamata Banerjee (AITC) requested the Minister to bring in a comprehensive Bill to cover all aspects of human rights so as to protect

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Bikram Keshari Deo, Adhir Chowdhury, Mohan Singh, S.K. Kharventhan, Nikhil Kumar, Vijoy Krishna, Ajoy Chakraborty, Kirip Chaliha, Varkala Radhakrishnan, Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Brahmananda Panda, T.K. Hamza, Shailendra Kumar, L. Rajagopal, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Dr. Sujan Chakraborty, Smt. V. Radhika Selvai, Smt. Archana Nayak and Smt. Sumitra Mahajan

the lives, property and everything else belonging to the people of the country.

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi (AIMIM) stated that the biggest human rights violation took place in relation to child labour and requested the Government to consider bringing in a legislation or amending the present Act wherein the NHRC could go into the violations in relation to child labour also.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal informed that Human Rights Commissions have been constituted only in 17 States so far and stressed the need to constitute such commissions in each and every State in the country. For this, the Central Government were making efforts. He expressed the hope that every State would have its own human rights commission in the days to come. Regarding the suggestion for inclusion of the members of the Commission for Women and the Minority Commission in the Human Rights Commission, he said that the Chairperson of the Commission for Women and the Chairperson of the Minority Commission, both, would henceforth be members of the human rights commissions.

The Bill was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, 19,616 notices of Questions were received. Out of these, 14,020 Questions were Starred; 5,575 Questions were Unstarred; and 21 were Short Notice Questions. Out of these, 439 Notices were included in Starred List of Questions (excluding 6 Starred Questions postponed); 3,675 in the Unstarred List of Questions (including 2 Short Notice Questions which were admitted as Unstarred but excluding one Question which was deleted from the Unstarred List).

Due to interruptions in the House on 24 July, 1, 4, 10, 11 and 22 August 2006 and owing to obituary references made by the Speaker on 21 August 2006, the House was adjourned on these days. As replies to the Starred Questions listed for these days could not be called for oral answer, these were treated as Unstarred and their answers together with the answers to the Unstarred Questions were printed in the Official Report for those days.

As announced by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, and agreed to by the

House on 28 July 2006, the sittings of Lok Sabha fixed for 28 to 30 August 2006 were cancelled. As the Question Lists for the same days were not printed and circulated to the Members and Ministries, notices of the Questions tabled for the above mentioned dates were treated as lapsed.

Daily average of Questions: The average number of Starred Questions answered orally in the House during the Session was 2.59. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered orally on a day was six on 3 and 25 August 2006.

The average number of Questions appearing in the Unstarred List came to 167 per day against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 101 questions on 24 July 2006.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: In all, 15 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received during the Session. Out of these, only two notices were admitted but none of them were discussed on the floor of the House.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the period, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Suraj Bhan, former Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha; Shri Kondapalli Paidithalli Naidu, sitting member; Sarvashri Pravinsinh Solanki, P. Narasimha Reddy, S.M. Guraddi, Yoganand Saraswati, Shri K.A. Rajan, Raja P.C. Deo Bhanj and Dr. (Smt.) Phulrenu Guha, all former members; and Ustad Bismillah Khan, a renowned Shehnai player.

Besides, references were also made to the loss of several lives in the earthquake that struck Indonesia's Java island on 27 May 2006 and Tsunami on 17 July 2006; to the loss of innocent lives in the seven bomb blasts that occurred on 11 July 2006 in suburban trains in Mumbai and grenade attacks on tourists in Srinagar, on the same day; to the loss of lives and large scale damage to property due to the incessant rains which resulted in floods in the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat; and to the loss of lives of the 16 Indians in the tragic incident of fire which broke out in a building in Manama, Bahrain on 30 July 2006.

Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

RAJYA SABHA

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTH SESSION*

The Rajya Sabha, which met for its Two Hundred and Eighth Session on 24 July 2006, was adjourned *sine die* on 25 August 2006. The Rajya Sabha was then prorogued by the President on 30 August 2006.

A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. STATEMENTS/DISCUSSIONS

Statement by the Prime Minister on the situation in Lebanon and evacuation of Indian nationals: Making a Statement in the House on 27 July 2006, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, apprised the House of the current situation and India's response to the evolving situation, especially the efforts made by India to aid and assist Indian nationals who had become victims of the escalating crisis in Lebanon.

The Prime Minister said that West Asia being India's extended neighbourhood, tensions in that region affected the country's security and the vital interests. India was seriously concerned about the escalation of the conflict between Israel and the Hezbollah extending across the Lebanon-Israel border.

The Prime Minister informed that, on 12 July, India had condemned the abduction of two Israeli soldiers by the Hezbollah cadres and called for their immediate release. Simultaneously, the excessive and disproportionate military retaliation by Israel, resulting in the killing and suffering of innocent civilians, had also been condemned in the strongest possible terms. India had also condemned the wholly unjustified arrest and continuing detention of Ministers of the Palestinian National Authority and members of the Palestinian Legislative Council.

Dr. Singh further informed the House that the Government of India had decided to contribute ten crore rupees for the humanitarian and relief efforts to rebuild Lebanon in response to an appeal issued by the Government of Lebanon. He stated that there was need for an immediate ceasefire so as to stop the destruction of Lebanon and for providing timely humanitarian assistance.

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* Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

Expressing concern on the safety and welfare of Indian nationals, the Prime Minister said that on 17 July, all Indian nationals, particularly those living in Southern Lebanon, had been advised to take suitable precautions regarding their personal safety and to remain in contact with the Embassy of India in Beirut, which had been instructed to render necessary advice and updated information on the evolving situation. He further informed that four Indian Naval ships—INS Mumbai, INS Brahmaputra, INS Betwa and INS Shakti—which were in the Red Sea area, were redirected to Beirut to assist in the evacuation.

A total number of 1,870 persons including 1,687 Indian nationals had been evacuated. He said that approximately 12,000 Indian nationals, mostly semi-skilled and unskilled workers, were in Lebanon at the time of the outbreak of hostilities. The Prime Minister further stated that the Indian Embassy continued to function in Beirut and was in touch with various organisations and agencies with which Indian nationals were associated. A contingent of 672 Indian officers and soldiers who had been sent as part of the UN Peace-keeping Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL), were confined to their barracks. The Prime Minister also appreciated the swift and successful response of the various Ministries, Departments and agencies of the Government in the task of helping the fellow citizens in distress.

Statement by the Minister of Home Affairs regarding the findings of the Enquiry Committee into the Veracity of Zee News telecast on Shri Manikrao Gavit, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs: Making a Statement in the House on 25 August 2006, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that on 13 August 2006, the Zee TV Channel, by using an audio tape, had alleged that Shri Manikrao Gavit, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs had conversation with a criminal in Bulandshahar jail. The Minister said that Shri Gavit had made a statement in the Lok Sabha and also in the Rajya Sabha asserting that he had never, spoken to any criminal in Bulandshahar jail, and that, the voice on the tape played by the particular channel, was not his voice, and that, what was shown or heard, on the channel was baseless, false and fabricated.

Shri Gavit had stated that he would subject himself in any manner to any inquiry by anybody or by a Committee of the Parliament so that the truth was ascertained and would refrain from discharging his executive or legislative functions, until the report of the inquiry was given to the House and would not join his duties unless acquitted. It had also been stated that he would accept any punishment, if an iota of evidence was

found to fix the guilt on him and would renounce his political life, if found guilty. Shri Gavit had requested that the inquiry be conducted in an expeditious manner avoiding unnecessary delays. In a Committee meeting of representatives of the Parliamentary Parties, it was decided that the matter should be inquired into by the Government and a report presented to the House. A letter indicating this in essence had been sent by the Speaker to the Prime Minister. In pursuance of the letter, the CBI had been asked to inquire into the matter and give the report before 25 August 2006.

Shri Patil said that the CBI had collected the tapes from the Channel and had recorded the statements of the relevant persons. The CBI also had collected the voice of Shri Gavit on the tape in the presence of independent witnesses and experts from Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Delhi and recorded his statement. The relevant tapes, Shri Patil informed, had been sent to the Central Forensic Science Laboratory to find out whether the voices on the tapes were of one and the same person or different persons. The voices on the tapes had been examined on audio spectrography by the experts who had opined that they did not tally and were not of the same person. The authenticated report was laid on the Table of the House and the matter was brought to the notice of the House.

Calling attention on the spread of Chickungunya viral fever in different parts of the country: On 23 August 2006, Shri V. Narayanasamy of the Indian National Congress called the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare in this regard.

Replying to the Calling attention, the Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Anbumani Ramdoss stated that Chickungunya, a non-fatal viral disease, spread by the bite of female *Aedes* mosquitoes, primarily *Aedes aegypti*. It resembled dengue fever and was caused by Chickungunya virus. Humans were considered to be major source of Chickungunya virus for mosquitoes. The mosquitoes usually transmitted the disease by biting infected person and then biting others. It was not a contagious disease. Chickungunya typically resulted in a large number of cases but deaths were rarely encountered. *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes breed in a wide variety of man-made containers such as discarded tyres, flower pots, old water drums, family water trough, water storage vessels and plastic food containers.

The disease, prevalent mostly in Africa had come to India after a span of 32 years and nearly 130 districts in the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat had been

affected by it. He informed the House that the Government was starting a new programme called the Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. It was a World Bank funded project and Rs.350 to 400 crore were to be spent on it. Its implementation would take nearly one-and-a-half year and thereafter more accurate figures of every village and block in the country would be received. He said that health being a State Subject, the Centre had to depend on the State Government's surveillance data regarding the number of affected persons.

Mentioning the remedial measures, the Minister informed that an advisory on the preventive aspects of the disease had been given as to how the Government should go about it and involve community participation. Moreover, information, education and communication activities were being accorded the topmost priority for creating awareness among the public.

He further informed that there was no treatment concept of medicine for Chickungunya. But, sometimes, there may be complications due to false mode of treatment which led to kidney failure and other issues. Therefore, even doctors were now being sensitised.

Referring to the National Vector-borne disease Control Programme, the Minister stated that the programme had five components, Malaria, Filariasis, Japanese Encephalitis, Kala Azar and *Dengi*. Now, Chickungunya had also been added to this Programme. The preventive mode of Chickungunya was like the preventive mode of other diseases, including the straining of water, emptying vessels and more of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities which needed to be done with the active cooperation of the State Government.

Dr. Ramdoss strongly countered the point that the spending in the health sector had decreased. The Minister said that in fact, when the UPA Government had taken over, one of the important decisions taken was to increase the public spending on the health sector from 0.9 per cent to a minimum of 2 to 3 per cent of the GDP. The total Budget for Health Ministry in a span of two years had gone up, from Rs. 6,500 crore to Rs. 11,000 crore approximately. Under the National Rural Health Mission, the State Governments had been asked to increase their spending on the health sector by ten per cent each year in the next five years.

The Minister said that though globally there was no vaccine for Chickungunya, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was trying to take up more research activities with other global partners, like the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The Minister further stated that he was actively in touch with all the State Health Ministers, personally and officially also. The Health Ministry was seriously trying to tackle the problem but it also required the involvement of the community, the NGOs', Corporates, State Governments, etc. He urged that everybody especially, the members of Parliament should have more involvement in spreading the IEC activities. The Minister assured the House that the Government was taking active steps for preventing and tackling the problem of Chikungunya.

Short Duration Discussion on Indo-U.S. nuclear deal: A Short Duration Discussion took place in the House in this regard on 17 August 2006. Initiating the discussion, Shri Yashwant Sinha of the Bharatiya Janata Party said that India's nuclear programme, like the foreign policy, had always been based on a national consensus. India, he said, had never been dependent on foreign technology, and appealed that fullest opportunity be given to the scientists so that the country was not dependant on foreign technology as far as the nuclear programme was concerned. He recalled that the NPT had not been signed by India as it was against discrimination which had been built into that Treaty.

Referring to the Prime Minister's visit to the U.S. in July 2005 and the Accord of 18 July 2005, he informed the House that the deal had been opposed by the Bharatiya Janata Party from the very beginning because it believed that it was meant to cap India's nuclear and strategic programme.

Elaborating the nuclear doctrine, he mentioned that India had taken the stand for 'no first-use' and not to use the nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States. However, if anybody attacked India with nuclear weapons, India would use nuclear weapons and inflict unacceptable damage on that enemy. This was the credible minimum deterrent that had to be maintained at all costs and at all times.

The basic reason for the nuclear deal was that the Government believed it would provide India with nuclear energy and energy security, was found to be fundamentally flawed. India, he said, could not have energy security on the strength of imported reactor and imported fuel. He added that the American officials had repeatedly said that the Indian understanding was flawed and they had a completely different understanding of the nuclear deal and its basic objectives, and the divergence between the Indian position and the US position widened day after day. It is a fact that the nuclear States have the flexibility to transfer their facilities from civilian to military whenever national security

considerations so demanded. Therefore, the question of India being able to do so had been quashed for all times to come.

Referring to the Indo-US nuclear deal, Shri Sinha stated that it was about the non-proliferation and not about the nuclear energy. The separation of the facilities between the civilian and the military had been done at the behest of the US, and the Congress of the US would sit in judgement over that separation plan as and when it was submitted to them. India would not be recognised as a Nuclear-Weapon State and the deal would bind it in perpetuity with no exit clause. India was required to identify and declare a date by which the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons, even though unilaterally, would be stopped. Such information had to be provided to the US Congress by the 31 of July every year. It would put a ban in perpetuity on nuclear testing, which goes even beyond the CTBT. He said that the NDA was not against building strategic and friendly ties with the US, but such ties should rest on the firm foundation of sovereignty, equality, reciprocity and mutual respect instead of a shaky foundation of a patron client relationship.

Shri Sinha further elaborated that the nuclear agreements must include (a) full Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India; (b) according India the same rights and benefits as provided to other nuclear weapon States; (c) providing that, India would undertake only such obligations as adopted by other nuclear weapon States; (d) that at any stage, Indian actions would only be reciprocal; and (e) that India would accept international inspections on its civil facilities or any other binding obligation only after, 'all restrictions on India have been lifted'. In addition, any Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement must provide for uninterrupted and unconditional supply of nuclear fuel to India; a permanent waiver of relevant US domestic laws without annual review and certifications; inspections of civil nuclear facilities only as long as the deal holds; complete freedom to India's strategic and foreign policy options; and an explicitly stated right of India to terminate the agreement on national security grounds. He further suggested that there should be a Joint Parliamentary Committee of the two Houses of Parliament which would oversee the implementation of that Resolution of the US House of Representatives.

Intervening in the debate, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Anand Sharma said that the Prime Minister had made a categorical assurance that whatever agreement India would sign would be within the templates of 18 July. He further said that in India

a stage had been reached almost after six decades where the country had been acknowledged as having advanced nuclear technology, and its scientists had made India proud by mastering the fuel cycle.

Referring to the Separation Plan, he said that the Plan itself was a reiteration that India had a dedicated nuclear programme. Only fourteen of the reactors were on the civilian list and eight remained dedicated to the military nuclear programme. India had not accepted any demand to cap the production of fissile material. The Safeguards Agreement that was negotiated would be India-specific Safeguard Agreement. India, he said, would not only have an uninterrupted fuel supply but also have a legal right to build a strategic full reserve for all the nuclear reactors for their life-time. The facilities would be placed under safeguard arrangements only after all restrictions were lifted and cooperation would be instantaneous. The Prime Minister and the Government were very clear as regards the purpose and objective of the Civil Nuclear Energy Cooperation.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Sitaram Yechury [CPI (M)], said that a certain degree of explanation was required, whether it was a nuclear deal or a deal concerning civil nuclear cooperation. Another point to be clarified was whether India would be treated as a nuclear weapon state or not. He recalled that the Prime Minister had assured both the Houses of Parliament and the nation that India would not compromise its strategic interests. But, according to the resolution of the US Senate, such cooperation would induce India to give greater political and material support to the achievement of US global and regional non-proliferation objectives. He said that both the Congress and the Senate talked about additional protocol of India with IAEA as a non-nuclear weapon state which was against India's interest and had to be safeguarded. India had agreed to work with the USA for Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty (FMCT) which was restricted to India's fissile material stockpile. However, since FMCT was an international multilateral agreement seeking clarification, he enquired whether that was an international multilateral agreement that India was entering into or a bilateral agreement to put pressure on India that its stockpile be reduced while the global stockpile remained as it was.

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* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Amar Singh, N. Jothi, Mangani Lal Mandal, Digvijay Singh, C. Ramachandraiah, Arun Shourie, Raashid Alvi, Shahid Siddiqui, Ram Jethmalani, Arjun Kumar Sengupta, Abani Roy, B. J. Panda, Syed Azeez Pasha, Tariq Anwar, Jaswant Singh, Dr. Barun Mukherjee, Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Smt. Shobhana Bhartia.

Dr. K. Kasturirangan, a Nominated member said that the nuclear deal was the culmination of a long-drawn process of understanding of each other's security concern in the new global order. But the most important thing was that India had developed its own strategy to develop nuclear power for national security reasons. The present assessment of the experts who had participated in the Conference of Disarmament was that it would take up to fifteen or twenty years to come to an agreement on FMCT and, he thought, by ten more years, India would be able to solve its requirements.

Dr. P.C. Alexander, an Independent member, said that the American policy was to achieve at the earliest possible date, implementation of treaty banning the production of missile materials or nuclear weapons to which India and the US would be parties. Moreover the policy of the US Government also opposed the development of a capacity to produce nuclear weapons by any non-nuclear weapon State with or without or outside the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT). He mentioned that US would consider extending certain benefits to non-NPT countries like India, provided there was congruence in the foreign policy of India to that of the US. Objecting to this, he remarked that even when India was economically not that strong, India had the courage, boldness and determination to tell the whole world that India decided its own foreign policy without being pressurized by others.

Replying to the discussion, the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the primary motivation for India's nuclear programme was the production of energy. When it comes to energy security, widening the choices meant effective use of nuclear power. The nuclear weapon programme, its autonomy, its independence, was solely dependent on India's own assessment, which should remain a cardinal principle of the country's nuclear policy.

Referring to the issues raised by the members, he said that many of these concerns were borne out of genuine conviction that nothing should be done that would undermine long-standing policies that had a bearing on India's vital national security interests.

The Prime Minister stated that the thrust of India's foreign policy remained the promotion of the national interest. The complexities present in an increasingly inter-dependent and multi-polar world have been recognized. He said that it was his conviction that having good relations with the United States was in the nation's interest. But, having said that, he did recognize that the United States was a pre-eminent power and good relations with the United States were in India's national interest

but it should not, in any way, cloud the judgement of India in international affairs.

He reiterated that the proposed US legislation on nuclear cooperation with India would not be allowed to become an instrument to compromise India's sovereignty. There was no question of India being bound by a law passed by a foreign legislature.

The central imperative in the discussion with the United States on Civil Nuclear Cooperation was to ensure the complete and irreversible removal of existing restrictions imposed on India through iniquitous restrictive trading regimes for the past three decades. The removal of restrictions included all aspects of cooperation and technology transfers pertaining to civil nuclear energy ranging from the supply of nuclear fuel to nuclear reactors to reprocessing spent fuel, and, all aspects of a complete nuclear fuel cycle was sought. It was believed that this would be the surest guarantee of India's acceptance as a full and equal partner of the international nuclear community even while preserving the integrity of the three-stage nuclear programme and protecting the autonomy of the scientific research and development.

The Prime Minister said that it had been made clear to the United States that India's strategic programme was totally outside the purview of the July 2005 statement and any legislative provision that mandates scrutiny of either the nuclear weapons programme or unsafeguarded nuclear facilities was not acceptable to India. Technical discussions at the expert level with the International Atomic Energy Agency on an India-specific safeguards agreement had been initiated. Both the Bilateral Nuclear Cooperation Agreement with the United States and the India-specific Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA would be only within the parameters of the July 2005 statement and the March 2006 Separation Plan. There was no question of India signing either a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency or an additional protocol of a type, which was concluded by non-nuclear weapon States, who had signed the NPT. The US had been intimated that reference to nuclear detonation in the India-US Bilateral Nuclear Cooperation Agreement as a condition for future cooperation was not acceptable.

The objective of full civil nuclear cooperation was enshrined in the July Statement which could be realised when current restrictions on nuclear trade with India were fully lifted. In accordance with the July Statement, the US had initiated steps to amend its legislation and to approach the Nuclear Supplier Group to adapt its guidelines. Regarding

restrictions on Indian Foreign Policy to be imposed such as on Iran, irrespective of whether it was in the policy section or in the sense of the House of Representatives section of the legislation, the Prime Minister said that the Government was clear that the commitments were only those that were contained in the July Joint Statement and in the Separation Plan. The introduction of extraneous issues in Foreign Policy and any prescriptive suggestion in this regard were not acceptable.

Under the Separation Plan India had agreed to place under IAEA safeguards fourteen of its reactors presently operating or under construction between 2006 and 2014. The nuclear facilities listed in the Separation Plan would be offered for safeguards only after all nuclear restrictions on India were lifted. This would include suitable amendments to the US legislation to allow for such cooperation, the passing of the bilateral agreement with India and the adaptation of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) guidelines. It was, therefore, clear that India could not be expected to take safeguard obligations on its nuclear facilities in anticipation of future lifting of restrictions. Regarding the guarantees on fuel as agreed in the March 2006 Statement, he said that the Separation Plan included elaborate fuel supply assurances given by the United States. He further said that India's support for global nuclear disarmament remained unwavering.

With reference to Iran in the House of Representatives Bill, the Prime Minister said that the linkage of any extraneous issues to the nuclear understanding was rejected. India's foreign policy, he said, would be decided on the basis of India's national interests only. The proposed US legislation had been studied very carefully, including the so-called binding and non-binding provisions. The non-binding provisions did not require mandatory action, but at the same time, had a certain weight in the implementation of the legislation as a whole. India's concerns in this respect had been conveyed to the US Administration.

Speaking about the role of Parliament in approving foreign policy, the Prime Minister stated that Parliament had been fully kept in view regarding various stages of the negotiations with the United States. Broad-based domestic consensus cutting across all sections in Parliament and outside would be necessary. There would be many opportunities to keep this House and the other House informed as the situation evolved. Nuclear weapons were an integral part of the national security, and would remain so pending, the global elimination of all nuclear weapons and universal non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament. He further said that India's

freedom of action with regard to its strategic programmes remained unrestricted. Referring to the concern raised by scientists that sensitive technological areas need not be subjected to external control, he said that sensitive nuclear technology facilities had not been covered in the Separation Plan and, therefore, there was no question of putting them under safeguards or under external control.

The Prime Minister assured the House that independence for carrying out independent research and development in nuclear science and technology would remain unaffected and there would be no external supervision of our Research and Development (R&D) since none of the sensitive R&D facilities, which handled nuclear material, had been included in the Separation Plan. The Government was committed to preserve the integrity of the three-stage nuclear power programme*, including the utilization of the vast thorium resources. In their final form, if the US legislation or the NSG guidelines imposed extraneous conditions on India, the Government, would draw the necessary conclusions consistent with the commitments to Parliament. Concluding, he invited the House to unanimously endorse the stand that the Parliament of India had outlined.

Serious situation arising out of rise in prices of essential commodities during last one year: A Short Duration Discussion in this regard took place in the House on 25 July 2006. Initiating the discussion, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu of the Bharatiya Janata Party said that the Economic Survey 2003-04 presented by the Finance Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram stated that while the economy grew at 8.2 per cent during the last fiscal year, India had an impressive 23 year record of growth averaging 5.12 per cent per year. That was the situation in which the present Government came to power. He said that despite surplus sugar and cement in the country the prices were going up. Coal production also had been increased but the price was going up. He also referred to the announcement by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs about proposed amendment making the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) applicable only in warlike situation. The Ministry had further stated that the rise in prices of essential commodities was led by macro-economic factors and not because of future trading in these commodities.

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* The three stage nuclear programme includes: pressurised heavy water reactor in the first phase; fast breeder reactor programme in the second phase and thorium programme in the third phase

Speaking on the management of public foodgrains, he stated that the procurement of wheat during 2005-06, marked a seasonal drop by a steep 36 per cent to 9.5 million tonne. The procurement was only 14.8 million tonne. The buffer stock norm for 1 July 2006 was 17.1 million tonne and by January the stock comprised only 4.9 million tonne. This was the lowest ever in the last ten years. Even the Economic Survey mentioned that there was shortage of food grains and shortfall of 11 per cent in procurement.

Shri Naidu further stated that the food grains had to be imported at a higher price than the price, which was offered to Indian farmers and while importing the Government, had gone to the extent of even relaxing the norms. If imports were allowed at zero per cent duty, it would ruin the lives of the farmers. The Government had failed in understanding the situation and also in taking appropriate punitive or preventive measures to face such a situation.

Referring to the inflation, Shri Naidu said that when the NDA regime was in power the inflation was 3.4 per cent in the first year, then 3.8 per cent, 4.3 per cent and 3.9 per cent. The inflation in the UPA regime was 4.1 per cent and 5.16 per cent. He urged the Government to do introspection, understand and take the criticism positively and seriously.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik (INC) said that as far as the prices were concerned, the factor of increasing oil prices contributed a lot in price rise, which was not in the Governments' hands and every increase abroad in oil prices followed an increase in local prices. He also stated that stringent laws with regard to hoarding and black-marketing should be made. Elaborating on the measures taken by the Government as a part of its strategy to control prices, he said that 35 lakh tonne of wheat was being imported, 42 lakh tonne of free sale of sugar for the quarter from April to June 2006 was made available, customs duty on import of pulses was reduced to zero on 8 June 2006 and permits had been given to private traders to import wheat at reduced duty of five per cent. He also urged the Government

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sharad Yadav, Banwari Lal Kanchal, P.G. Narayanan, Mangani Lal Mandal, Ramdas Agarwal, Arjun Kumar Sengupta, C. Ramachandraiah, Abani Roy, Sharad Anantrao Joshi, Dinesh Trivedi, R. Shunmugasundaram, Bashishtha Narain Singh and Dr. Prabha Thakur

to consider giving some powers to the Chief Ministers to control hoarding of essential commodities.

Shrimati Brinda Karat [CPI(M)] said that the whole issue of skyrocketing prices was directly related to a particular framework of policies, within the neo-liberal framework. Speaking about poverty, she said that one of the calculations of poverty was how much of a family's income was spent just to meet its food requirements. Out of ten, nine families in rural India and seven in urban India were spending 60 per cent of their budget on food requirements. She said that a very important measure required immediately to protect the poor in India was the strong Public Distribution System (PDS) which afforded some relief to the people as far as food security was concerned. However, the Below Poverty Line (BPL) allocation had been slashed from 5.25 lakh tonne to 4.46 lakh tonne and Above Poverty Line (APL) allocation had been slashed from 15 lakh tonne to 1.94 lakh tonne by the Government. In other words, the entire PDS was being destroyed systematically and the Government wanted to retreat from its basic responsibility of providing food security to the people of the country. She urged that the PDS be strengthened and oil, *dal* and other essential commodities be included in it so as to afford some minimum relief to the people of the country. Smt. Karat said another important measure was that there should be a ban on future trading in essential commodities.

Replying to the debate, the Minister of Finance, Shri P. Chidambaram said that inflation took place because of a variety of factors, but, broadly, all of them could be clubbed into three factors. One was the cost-push inflation; when input cost goes up, prices do rise. Not only fuel prices but commodity prices had hardened throughout the world. In an open economy, it was not possible to insulate commodity prices in the country from commodity prices in the rest of the world.

The second reason for the price rise was demand-driven, demand-pull inflation. The cement prices were high because the demand for cement had outpaced the supply of cement. The third reason was supply shocks, that is, the supply-demand had not been managed as efficiently as it should have been. The Minister admitted that there had been price rise, which was largely driven by two sectors; one was the fuel sector and the other was the primary articles sector. He stated that there could be no control on fuel and only the burden of 10 per cent of the fuel price rise, crude oil price rise had been passed on and the Government and oil companies were absorbing the remaining 90 per cent.

The second reason was the primary articles particularly wheat, sugar and pulses, which had caused the price rise. He also mentioned that the production of pulses has stagnated since 1995-96. There had not been any major scientific breakthrough or technological breakthrough in either wheat or paddy or pulses.

Speaking about the future trading in commodities, the Minister said that a regulated future market with limits, open position, adequate margins and a price-trigger mechanism had been found to be successful in many countries to curb speculation. There had been a debate within the Government and the Standing Committee's report on the Bill which was pending before Parliament and awaited an exercise to take a close look at future trading in commodities. The Bill would empower the regulator to take the action.

Referring to the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), the Minister said that it took certain items in its basket while the Consumer Price Index (CPI) took very different items. The Minister assured that the steps that had been taken would stabilize the inflation rate, by mid-May onwards. He stated that through fiscal and monetary efforts, inflation would be stabilized. Supply side shocks would be redressed by addressing the question of wheat, sugar and pulses. Contrary to the popular impression that with the rise in crude oil prices an undeserved or unexpected bonanza to the Exchequer was received, the Minister said that the Budget target on the petroleum sector's tax revenues fell short by Rs.1,864 crore as there was shortfall of Rs.5,850 crore on the excise revenue side. Excise revenue fell because import of petroleum products was less and volume of growth of diesel was only 1.5 per cent in 2005-06. Therefore, excise revenues actually took a negative growth and the customs revenues, got a little more growth.

As far as crude oil was concerned, the customs duty on crude oil had been reduced from 10 per cent to 5 per cent. The customs duty on petroleum products had been reduced from 20 per cent to 10 per cent. Dr. Rangarajan Committee Report had been followed strictly on the excise side where the Government had shifted to the *ad valorem* duty. If any further fiscal measures had to be taken, the fiscal measures would be looked at, but, at the same time, the revenues had to be protected.

He said that the Government was totally aware that the prices needed to be stabilized and fiscal as well as monetary steps to be taken on the supply side.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006:* Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 27 July 2006, the Minister of Law & Justice, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj said that article 102 (1) (a) of the Constitution provides that a person shall be disqualified for being chosen as and for being a member of either House of Parliament if he holds an office of profit under the Government of India or Government of State other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder. In pursuance of this, the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 was enacted by Parliament to exempt certain offices, holding of which would otherwise subject the holder of such office to disqualification.

Shri Bhardwaj said that the expression "holds any Office of Profit under the Government" mentioned in article 102 of the Constitution had nowhere been defined precisely. Its scope had to be gathered from the pronouncements made, from time to time, by the Supreme Court as well as High Courts as to what constitutes the expressions "Office", "Profit" and "under the Government". The courts were of the view that a practical view, not pedantic baskets of tests, must guide the courts to arrive at an appropriate conclusion whether the concerned office was an "Office of Profit".

The Minister further stated that the Constitution of India demarcates the legislative powers between the Union and States to deal with the disqualification of members of Parliament and members of the State Legislatures. The power of the State Legislatures, in respect of their members was contained in article 191(1)(a) of the Constitution and accordingly, State Legislatures had enacted the Prevention of Disqualification Acts for their respective States. Any attempt by Parliament to lay down generic criteria, which would apply, to the members of the State Assemblies might be seen as an encroachment by the Parliament in the domain of State Legislatures. The Government had, therefore, carefully and respectfully considered the message** of the

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* The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 16 May 2006.

** Earlier, the Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 16 and 17 May 2006 respectively. The President returned the Bill on 30 May 2006 with a message to the Houses for reconsideration of the Bill. For details, kindly refer to the Feature 'Sessional Review-Lok Sabha' at pp. 524-539

President and was of the view that the Bill be considered again and passed by the Parliament.

Replying to the debate,* the Minister said that the issue of involving a generic and comprehensive criteria as just, fair and reasonable which could be applied across the States and the Union territories in a clear and transparent manner was a challenging job. He added that the Parliament was grateful to the President to have drawn its attention to the issue of promoting probity in public life. After the Bill was passed, he said the Government would constitute a Committee of both the Houses to go threadbare with the problem and come up with a solution.

The motion for consideration of the Bill, Clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill, as passed by the Houses of Parliament, was passed again the same day.

*The Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2005***

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 2 August 2006, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal said that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was set up in October 1993, under the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, for promotion and protection of Human Rights in the country. In May 1988, the Commission had set up an advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice A.M. Ahamedi, former Chief Justice of India, to assess the need for amendments to the Act. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, the NHRC last suggested various amendments to the said Act. The amendments suggested by the NHRC were examined by an Inter-Ministerial Committee, which made recommendations to the Government for amendments to the Act, which were considered by the Government, and the Bill in this regard was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 8 December 2005. The Bill was referred to the Departmentally related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination.

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* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Arun Jaitley, Amar Singh, Sitaram Yechury, N. Jothi, Ram Jethmalani, Sharad Anantrao Joshi, Syed Azeez Pasha, Dinesh Trivedi, Abani Roy, Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Dr. P.C. Alexander and Dr. Bimal Jalan

** The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 8 December 2005

The Committee had suggested certain modifications to sharpen the focus of the amendments on the proposed changes so as to make it more effective. The Government had accepted the modifications suggested by the Parliamentary Standing Committee and these were reflected in the list of Official Amendments, submitted to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha for consideration along with the Bill. The Bill, he said, sought to make eligible Judges of Supreme Court with at least three years of service, for appointment as Chairperson of the NHRC; reduce the number of members of a State Human Rights Commission from the present five to three; enable the NHRC to transfer complaints received by it to the concerned State Humans Rights Commission; enable the NHRC and the SHRCs to make interim recommendations for compensation at any stage of the inquiry, as was the law at present; and clarify that the Chairperson of the NHRC and the SHRCs were distinct from the members of the respective Commissions.

Replying to the debate* on 3 August 2006, the Minister of Home Affairs Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that as far as the actual functioning was concerned, it was the Supreme Court and other courts which were punishing and were seeing that the orders passed were implemented. Regarding giving more powers to the Human Rights Commission, he said that it would again be considered and examined and wherever necessary and possible, it would be done.

The motion for consideration of the Bill, Clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed.

*The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2006***: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 8 August 2006, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury

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* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Arun Jaitley, Ravula Chandra Sekar Reddy, S. Anbalagan, Shreegopal Vyas, Tarlochan Singh, Gandhi Azad, V. Narayanasamy, Laxminarayan Sharma, Ekanath K. Thakur, Praveen Rashtrapal, N. Jothi, Ram Narayan Sahu, C. Perumal, Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary, Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan, Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Smt. Brinda Karat, Kumari Nirmala Deshpande and Dr. Prabha Thakur

** The Bill as passed by the Lok Sabha was laid on the Table on 3 August 2006

said that the Bill sought to provide justice and opportunities to the children of India for their growth and development. The Act, the Minister said was based on the provisions of the Indian Constitution and the four broad rights of the UN Convention on the Rights of the child including the right to survival, protection, development and participation. One of the important amendments to the Bill is to include the definition of adoption according to which single parents; parents with children of their own or anybody who wanted to adopt a child would be facilitated. The children begging on the road had been brought under 'Child Beggars' in the definition of children, who were in the need of care and protection. In order to protect children from being put in police lock-ups or in jails, a proviso under section 10 (1) had been added. Section 15 (1) (g) was proposed to be amended so that the Juvenile Justice Board could make an order directing the juvenile to be sent to a special home instead of being locked up in jail for a maximum period of three years.

Section 21 was to be amended so that the contravention of provisions dealing with prohibition of publication of names, etc. of a child or juvenile would be punishable. This would go a long way in ensuing that the media remained sensitive to children. Sections 4 and 29 were proposed to be amended so that the State Governments could constitute Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees for each district within one year of the amendment Act coming into force. Sections 14(2) and 33(3) were also to be amended so that the Chief Judicial Magistrate or the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate or the State Governments might review pendency of cases before the Child Welfare Committee so that there could be a speedy disposition and completion of the enquiry process. Section 34 (3) was being amended to ensure that all institutions run by the State Governments/voluntary organizations for children in need of care and protection were registered under the Act within a period of six months from the date of commencement of the Amendment Act, 2006. Moreover, through amendment of section 41(4), the State Government would recognize one or more of their institutions or voluntary organizations in each district as specialized adoption agencies. With insertion of section 62(A) every State Government would constitute a Child Protection Unit for the State and every district with competent officers to take up matters relating to children/juveniles for ensuring implementation of the Act.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister said that all the matters linked with the subject were being streamlined and sought the support and contribution of all the members with a request that the Bill be passed.

The motion for consideration of the Bill, Clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed the same day.

*The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2006***:* Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 24 August 2006, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi said that a Joint Committee of members of both the Houses of Parliament was constituted to examine and recommend to the House and the Cabinet as to what should be the allowances and salaries of the members of Parliament from time to time. He informed the House that the Government had agreed, in principle, to set up a permanent mechanism for recommending the salary and allowances of the members of Parliament. A suitable amendment to the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 would be brought during the next session of Parliament***.

Replying to the debate**** the Minister said that the media had every right to criticise the Government but it should take care of the Government's viewpoints as well and project it.

The motion for consideration of the Bill, Clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed the same day.

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Virendra Bhatia, Matilal Sarkar, Rajniti Prasad, Vijay Kumar Rupani, Maulana Obaidullah Khan Azmi, Smt. Maya Singh, Smt. S.G. Indira, Ms. Sushila Tiriya and Ms. Pramila Bohidar

** The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 23 August 2006

*** For details of the Bill kindly refer to the Feature 'Documents of Constitutional and Parliamentary Interest' at pp. 510-514

****Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Prasanta Chatterjee, Datta Meghe, Gireesh Kumar Sanghi, Virendra Bhatia, Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary and Smt. Sushma Swaraj

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the session, 7,514 notices of Questions (6,434 Starred and 1,080 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 440 Questions were admitted as Starred and 3,186 Questions were admitted as Unstarred. The total number of notices of Questions received in Hindi was 1,896.

Daily average of Questions: For all the days, the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions. On an average, 3.04 Questions were orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered on a particular day was nine on the 10 August 2006 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was one on 3 and 7 August 2006.

The list of Unstarred Questions contained 75, 90, 90, 143, 154 and 154 Questions on 24, 25, 26 and 27 July 2006 and 1 and 3 August 2006 respectively. On the rest of the days, it contained 155 Questions each.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: In all, fifteen notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received, out of these 12 were admitted and 3 were taken up discussion.

Short Notice Questions: Six Short Notice Question were received, but none was admitted.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Vasant Chavan, sitting member of the Rajya Sabha; Sarvashri K. Gopalan and Shamim Hashmi, Prof. M.M. Agarwal, Shrimati Nandini Satpathy, Dr. (Smt.) Phulrenu Guha, all former members. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Twelfth Assam Legislative Assembly commenced its Second Session on 10 July 2006, and was adjourned *sine die* on 26 July 2006. There were nine sittings in all. During the period, there was a recess period *w.e.f.* 14 July to 19 July 2006 for the meetings of the four Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs), which presented their reports to the House on 20 July 2006.

Financial business: On 10 July 2006, the Chief Minister Shri Tarun Gogoi who also holds the Finance Portfolio presented the Annual Budget for the year 2006-2007 to the House. The House passed the Budget on 25 July 2006 after discussion and voting. The relevant Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 2006 was introduced, considered and passed after discussion in the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of 26 prominent persons. Tributes were also paid to those who lost their lives in the serial bomb blasts in Mumbai and Srinagar.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

The Hundred and Fifth Session of the Karnataka Legislative Council, which commenced on 25 September 2006 in Belgaum (North Karnataka) for tne first time in the view of the Suvarna Karnataka Celebrations. It was adjourned *sine die* on 29 September 2006. There were 5 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor of Karnataka, Shri T.N. Chaturvedi addressed members of both the Houses assembled together on 28 September 2006.

Legislative business: During the Session, following seven Bills were considered and passed by the House. (i) The Karnataka Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2006; (ii) The Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, 2005; (iii) The Karnataka Town and Country Planning and Certain Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2004; (iv) The Bangalore Development Authority (Second Amendment) Bill, 2005; (v) The Karnataka

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* Material contributed by the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Council Secretariat

Legislature (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 2006; (vi) The Karnataka Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Bill, 2005; and (vii) The Karnataka Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2006.

Financial business: The Supplementary Estimates (First Instalment) for the year 2006-2007 were presented as per article 205 (1) of the Constitution of the India.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of former members of the Lok Sabha, former Ministers of Karnataka, former members of the State Legislative Council and the State Legislative Assembly, famous writers, and other important dignitaries. Tributes were also paid to persons who lost their lives in bomb explosions at Malegaon, Nasik District of Maharashtra.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Twelfth Karnataka Legislative Assembly which commenced its Fourth Session on 25 September 2006, was adjourned *sine die* on 29 September 2006. The Session was held in Belgaum for the first time due to Suvarna Karnataka Celebrations. There were 5 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor of Karnataka Shri T.N. Chaturvedi addressed members of both the Houses assembled together on 28 September 2006.

Legislative business: During the Session, 6 Bills including the Appropriation Bill were passed by the House.

Financial business: On 26 September 2006, the Deputy Chief Minister Shri B.S. Yediyurappa, who also holds the Finance Portfolio, presented the Supplementary Estimates for the year 2006-07 (First Instalment) before the House and it was adopted.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Bharat Ratna Ustad Bismillah Khan; Sarvashri Bhanu Pratap Singh, former Governor of Karnataka and former Union Minister; G. Puttaswamy Gowda and L.G. Havanur, former Ministers; and Sarvashri M.D. Shivapura, S.M. Guraddi, Somalingappa H. Nalavagala, Govinda Rao Manavi, B.K. Puttaiah, Nadaf Mohammed Sab Mardan Sab, Venkanagouda Patil, Alagouda Basa Prabhu Desai, all former members of Legislative Assembly; and the famous persons of the State, Sarvashri Matigatta Krishna Muruthy and

* Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat

S.K. Karim Khan and Smt. Mahadevi Tayee. Tributes were also paid to those who lost their lives in bomb explosions at Malegaon, Nasik District of Maharashtra.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Ninth Session of the Twelfth Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly commenced on 17 July 2006, and was adjourned *sine die* on 26 July 2006. There were 8 sittings in all.

Address by the President: The President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam addressed the House on 17 July 2006 as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha.

Legislative business: During the Session, thirteen Bills were introduced and passed by the House.

Financial business: The Minister of Finance Shri Raghavji presented the Statement of First Supplementary Expenditure for the year 2006-2007 on 21 July 2006. The Supplementary Demands were discussed and the Appropriation Bill for the same was passed by the House on 24 July 2006.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Bansilal, Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan Chaudhary and Shri Pramod Mahajan, former Union Ministers; Sarvashri Amolak Chand Chhanjed, Shri Gajram Singh, Shri Ramchandra Chaudhary, Dr. Toomanlal and Smt. Mayadevi Salwar, all former members of the State Legislature; and Shri Virendra Kumar Tiwari, *Sthyai Sachiv* of the Madhya Pradesh Indian National Congress Vidhayak Dal. Tributes were also paid to those who lost their lives in the Mumbai bomb blasts.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

The Maharashtra Legislative Council, which commenced its Second Session of the year 2006 on 3 July 2006 was prorogued by the Governor on 21 July 2006. There were 14 sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2006 was introduced, considered and passed by the House.

The following Bills, as passed by the State Legislative Assembly,

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* Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislative Council Secretariat

were considered and passed by the House: (i) The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2006; (ii) Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006; (iii) The Bombay Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2006; (iv) The Maharashtra Private Professional Educational Institutions (Reservation of seats for admission of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-notified Tribes (*Vimukta Jatis),* Nomadic Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Bill, 2006; (v) The Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2006; (vi) The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2006; and (vii) The Maharashtra Prevention of Fire and Life Safety Measures Bill, 2006.

Financial business: The Minister of State for Finance, Shri Sunil Punjabrao Deshmukh, presented the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 2006-2007 to the House on 4 July 2006. The general discussion on the Supplementary Demands for the year 2006-2007 was held on 13 July 2006.

The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill 2006, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, was also considered by the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Vasant Chhotelal Chavan, former Minister and former member of the Legislative Council. Tributes were also paid to those who lost their lives in the terrorist act of bomb blasts in Mumbai's Western Local Trains on 11 July 2006.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Ninth Maharashtra Legislative Assembly commenced its Second Session of the year 2006 on 3 July 2006, which was prorogued by the Governor on 21 July 2006. There were 14 sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, following 9 Bills were considered and passed by the House: (i) The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2006; (ii) The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006; (iii) The Bombay Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2006; (iv) The Maharashtra Private Professional Educational Institutions (Reservation of seats for admission for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-notified Tribes (*Vimukta Jatis),* Nomadic Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Bill, 2006; (v) The Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2006;

* Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly Secretariat

(vi) The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary Appropriation) Bill, 2006 (vii) The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2006; (viii) The Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Bill, 2006, and (ix) The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2006.

Financial business: The Minister of Finance presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2006-2007 on 4 July 2006. The discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands of five Departments was held on 12 July 2006.

A total of 103 Cut Motions were received, out of which 57 were admitted, while 46 were disallowed. No Cut Motion was moved in the House.

The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2006 was passed by the House on 13 July 2006.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Vasant Chhotelal Chavan, former Minister and former member of the Legislative Assembly; Balasaheb Dhondusheth Kale, Baburao Manikrao Auralkar, Wamanrao Ramrao Deshmukh, Kashinath Baburao Asware, Kisanrao Pandhrinath Kasane, Gangadharappa Chanbasappa Chaudhari, Abdul Kadir Abdul Wahed Deshmukh, Shankarrao Ganpatrao Gharge and Dr. Arvind Dattatraya Lele, all former members of the State Legislative Assembly. Tributes were also paid to those who lost their lives in the terrorist act of bomb blasts in Mumbai's Western Local Trains on 11 July 2006.

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eighth Manipur Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fifteenth Session on 15 September 2006, was adjourned *sine die* on 18 September 2006. There were two sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following two Bills were introduced and passed by the House. (i) The Manipur Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Amendment Bill, 2006 and (ii) The Manipur State Commission for Other Backward Classes (Amendment) Bill, 2006.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri T. Tualchin, former member of the Manipur Legislative Assembly.

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* Material contributed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Tenth Nagaland Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Twelfth Session on 22 August 2006 was adjourned *sine die* on 24 August 2006. The Governor prorogued the House on the same day. There were two sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following five Bills were considered and passed by the House: (i) The Nagaland Women Commission Bill, 2006; (ii) The Nagaland Municipal (First Amendment) Bill, 2006; (iii) The Nagaland Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2006; (iv) The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University (Nagaland) Bill, 2006; and (v) The Global Open University (Nagaland) Bill, 2006.

Financial business: The Chief Minister, Shri Neiphiu Rio, who also holds the Finance Portfolio, presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for regularization of excess expenditure for the year 1994-95. The discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants for regularization of excess expenditure for the year 1994-95 was taken up and the Demands for Grants No.13, 14, 16, 27, 28, 31, 37, 46, 48, 57, 62, 64, 67 and 68 were passed by a voice vote.

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Thirteenth Orissa Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Eight Session on 31 July 2006, was adjourned *sine die* on 12 August 2006. There were 12 sittings in all. The Governor prorogued the House on 4 September 2006.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following four Bills were considered and passed by the House: (i) The Bihar and Orissa Excise (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 2006; (ii) The Orissa Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006; (iii) The Orissa Marine Fishing (Regulation) Bill, 2006; and (iv) The Orissa Special Courts Bill, 2006.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Smt. Nandini Satapathy, former Chief Minister; Sarvashri Gajadhar Majhi, Sitting Member; Gangadhar Mohapatra, former Minister; Achyutanand Mahakur, Chakradhar Satapathy, and Jagateswar Mirdha, all former members of the State Legislative Assembly; and Sangram Keshari, a former Sepoy of the Indian Army.

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* Material contributed by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat

** Material contributed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly Secretariat

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	24 July 2006 to 25 August 2006
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	22
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	124 hours, 43 minutes
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	1 (on 31 July 2006)
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	27
	(ii) Introduced	8
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha	7
	(iv) Reported by Standing Committee	4
	(v) Referred to Departmentally related Standing Committees by Speaker/Chairman, Rajya Sabha	4
	(vi) Discussed	17
	(vii) Passed	17
	(viii) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	9
	(ix) Pending at the end of the Session	24
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	168
	(ii) Introduced	24
	(iii) Discussed	3
	(iv) Passed	Nil
	(v) Withdrawn	2
	(vi) Part-discussed	1
	(vii) Pending at the end of the session	190
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 184	
	(i) Notices received	504
	(ii) Admitted	191
	(iii) Discussed	Nil
8.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	232
9.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE DURING ZERO HOUR	333

10.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
	(i) Notices received	500
	(ii) Admitted	5
	(iii) Discussions held	4
	(iv) Part-discussed	1
11.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling attention to matters of urgent public importance)	9
12.	STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS UNDER RULE 372 AND DIRECTION 73 A	36
13.	MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	Nil
14.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	Nil
15.	RESOLUTION(S) PLACED BEFORE THE HOUSE BY HON'BLE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA	1
16.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	Nil
17.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Received	6
	(ii) Admitted	6
	(iii) Discussed	1
	(iv) Part-discussed	1
18.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	1
	(ii) Admitted	1
	(iii) Adopted	1
19.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	Nil
20.	MOTION REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULES	Nil
21.	NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS	
	(i) Total No. of Notices received	17
	(ii) Admitted	1
	(iii) Barred in view of Adjournment Motion admitted on the Subject	6
	(iv) Consent withheld by the Speaker, Lok Sabha outside the House	10
22.	NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE(S) CONSTITUTED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION	24 DRSCs (Reconstituted w.e.f. 5 August 2006)
23.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	11,198

24. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND THE DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	1,078; issued on 24 August 2006
25. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	440
(ii) Starred questions answered orally	57
(iii) Un-starred	3,675
(iv) Short Notice Questions	1
26. PETITIONS PRESENTED	1
27. NUMBER OF PRIVILEGE MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	5
(ii) Brought before the House	3
(iii) Observation made by Speaker	3

28. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period from 1 July to 30 September 2006	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
i)	Business Advisory Committee	—	—
ii)	Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House	—	—
iii)	Committee on Empowerment of Women	—	—
iv)	Committee on Estimates	3	—
v)	Committee on Ethics	—	—
vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	—	—
vii)	Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	3	—
viii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	—	—
ix)	Committee on Petitions	4	4
x)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	2	2
xi)	Committee of Privileges	—	—
xii)	Committee on Public Accounts	5	5
xiii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	7	—
xiv)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	—	—
xv)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	3	11
xvi)	General Purposes Committee	—	—
xvii)	House Committee	—	—
	a) Accommodation Sub-Committee	—	—
	b) Sub-Committee on Amenities	—	—

xviii)	Library Committee	—	—
xix)	Railway Convention Committee	1	1
xx)	Rules Committee	—	—

JOINT / SELECT COMMITTEES

i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	—	—
ii)	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	—	—

DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES

i)	Committee on Agriculture	—	—
ii)	Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers	3	1
iii)	Committee on Coal & Steel	3	2
iv)	Committee on Defence	6	2
v)	Committee on Energy	2	2
vi)	Committee on External Affairs	2	—
vii)	Committee on Finance	—	—
viii)	Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	—	—
ix)	Committee on Information Technology	—	—
x)	Committee on Labour	—	—
xi)	Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas	1	—
xii)	Committee on Railways	5	1
xiii)	Committee on Rural Development	—	—
xiv)	Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment	3	1
xv)	Committee on Urban Development	—	—
xvi)	Committee on Water Resources	3	—

CELL ON PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

Sl. No.	Name of Forum	No. of Meetings held during the period from 1 July to 30 September 2006	No. of lectures held
1.	Parliamentary Forum on Children	1	—
2.	Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management	—	1
3.	Parliamentary Forum on Youth	2	—
4.	Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health	—	—

APPENDIX II

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTH SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	24 July to 25 August 2006
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	22
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	113 Hours and 41 Minutes
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	2
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	42
	(ii) Introduced	7
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	10
	(iv) Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment	3
	(v) Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vii) Referred to the Department-related Standing Committees	5
	(viii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
	(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(x) Reported by the Department-related Standing Committees	4
	(xi) Discussed	16
	(xii) Passed	16
	(xiii) Withdrawn	1
	(xiv) Negatived	Nil
	(xv) Part-discussed	Nil
	(xvi) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	3
	(xvii) Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	42
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	101
	(ii) Introduced	27
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	Nil

(iv)	Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
(v)	Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(vi)	Discussed	1
(vii)	Withdrawn	Nil
(viii)	Passed	Nil
(ix)	Negatived	Nil
(x)	Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi)	Part-discussed	1
(xii)	Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiii)	Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv)	Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv)	Lapsed due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	Nil
(xvi)	Pending at the end of the Session	128
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
(i)	Notices received	150
(ii)	Admitted	8
(iii)	Discussions held	5
8.	NUMBER OF STATEMENT MADE UNDER RULE 180 (Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
(i)	Statement made by Ministers	1
(ii)	Half-an-hour discussions held	Nil
9.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	Nil
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Moved	Nil
(iv)	Adopted	Nil
(v)	Negatived	Nil
(vi)	Withdrawn	Nil
10.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	Nil
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Moved	Nil
(iv)	Adopted	Nil
11.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(I)	Received	9
(ii)	Admitted	9
(iii)	Discussed	2
(iv)	Withdrawn	1

(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Adopted	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	1
(viii) Discussion Postponed	Nil
12. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved & discussed	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
13. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i) Received	115
(ii) Admitted	99
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-Discussed	Nil
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
14. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i) Received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
(vii) Part-Discussed	Nil
(viii) Lapsed	Nil
15. NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY	Nil
16. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	1,726
17. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS	3,454
18. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	170 (on 23.8.2006)
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE	445 (on 1.8.2006)
20. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	440
(ii) Unstarred	3,186
(iii) Short-Notice Questions	Nil

21. DISCUSSIONS ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES — Nil

22. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period from 1 July to 30 Sept. 2006	No. of Reports presented
(i) Business Advisory Committee	5	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	1	Nil
(iii) Committee on Petitions	2	Nil
(iv) Committee of Privileges	1	Nil
(v) Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	2	Nil
(vii) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	2	Nil
(viii) General Purposes Committee	Nil	Nil
(ix) House Committee	3	Nil
Department-related Standing Committees		
(x) Commerce	3	Nil
(xi) Home Affairs	8	1
(xii) Human Resource Development	5	1
(xiii) Industry	4	Nil
(xiv) Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	5	Nil
(xv) Transport, Tourism and Culture	4	Nil
(xvi) Health & Family Welfare	4	1
(xvii) Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice	6	1
Other Committees		
(xviii) Ethics Committee	Nil	Nil
(xix) Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha	Nil	Nil
(xx) Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	1	Nil
(xxi) Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Functioning of Wakf Boards	2	Nil
(xxii) Committee Co-ordination Section	Nil	Nil

23. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE 2

24. PETITIONS PRESENTED Nil

25. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN-IN WITH DATES

Sl. No.	Name of Members sworn-in	Party Affiliation	Date on which sworn-in
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri K.E. Ismail	CPI	7.7.2006
2.	Prof. P.J. Kurien	INC	-do-
3.	Shri P.R. Rajan	CPI (M)	-do-
4.	Chowdhary Mohammad Aslam	INC	24.7.2006
5.	Shri Rahul Bajaj	IND	-do-
6.	Shri K.P.K. Kumaran	DMK	-do-
7.	Shrimati Jaya Bachchan	SP	-do-
8.	Shri Amir Alam	SP	-do-

26. OBITUARY REFERENCES

Sl. No.	Name	Sitting Member/ Ex-Member
1.	Shri K. Gopalan	Ex-Member
2.	Shri Vasant Chavan	Sitting Member
3.	Dr. (Smt.) Phulrenu Guha	Ex-Member
4.	Shrimati Nandini Satpathy	-do-
5.	Prof. M.M. Agarwal	-do-
6.	Shri Shamim Hashmi	-do-

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Question	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	10.7.2006 to 26.7.2006	9	9(9)	—	741(180)	313(450)•	87(70)
Bihar L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.	4.8.2006 to 12.8.2006	6	_(14)	—	601(569)	—	256(231)
Chhattisgarh L.A.	24.7.2006 to 3.8.2006	7	9(10)	—	567(285)	340(267)	—
Goa L.A.	10.7.2006 to 31.7.2006	16	10(10)	—	815(733)	525(533)•	—
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A.	18.9.2006 to 20.9.2006	3	11(11)	—	153(95)	15(6)	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.	17.8.2006 to	9	14(12)	—	239(233)	141(123)	142(118)
Karnataka L.A.	19.6.2006 to 18.7.2006 & 25.9.2006 to 29.9.2006	26 —	6(5)	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	25.9.2006 to 29.9.2006	5	2(7)	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	3.7.2006 to 21.7.2006	14	12(7)	17	6734(835)	43(1482)•	20(3)
Maharashtra L.C.	3.7.2006 to 21.7.2006	14	1(9)	2	2975(861)	5(403)•	7(1)
Manipur L.A.	15.9.2006 to 18.9.2006	2	2(2)	—	25(20)	7(5)	—
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	22.8.2006 to 24.8.2006	2	5(5)	—	32(32)	1(1)	—
Orissa L.A.	31.7.2006 to 12.8.2006	12	4(4)	1	1992(1574)	2176(3087)•	14(2)
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	60(58)
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttaranchal L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	21.8.2006 to 15.12.2006	15	24(24)	—	1440(59)	460(1341)•	490(23)
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	21.8.2006 to	8	2(6)	—	812(563)	109(89)	115(40)
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Delhi L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

• Starred Questions and Short Notices admitted as Unstarred Questions

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

COMMITTEES AT WORK / NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

	Business Advisory Committee	Committee on Govt. Assurances	Committee on Petitions	Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions	Committee of Privileges	Committee on Public Undertakings	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs	Committee on Estimates	General Purposes Committee	House/Accommodation Committee	Library Committee	Public Accounts Committee	Rules Committee	Joint/Select Committee	Other Committees
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Assam L.A.	2	2	5	—	—	4	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	1(1)	—	6[a]
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.	2(2)	17	10(1)	12(1)	10	—	10	13(1)	—	11	11(1)	12	—	—	—	73(6)[b]
Chhattisgarh L.A.	1(1)	—	—	3(1)	1	1	3(1)	1	—	—	3	2	9(18)	—	—	—
Goa L.A	1(1)	—	6	—	1	—	3(1)	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	4(1)	—
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A.	1(1)	14	16	—	11	11	16	14	12	—	1	15	20	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.	3	7	21(1)	—	—	—	9	10	14	—	—	15	—	—	—	162(3)[c]
Karnataka L.A.	3	15(1)	6	14	4	6	5	4	5	—	6	5	8	1	10	19(1)[d]
Karnataka L.C.	3	6	5	2(2)	6(2)	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	2(1)	18	3(1)	2(2)	7	13	9	20(2)	9(1)	—	1	1	17(1)	—	—	49(3)[e]
Maharashtra L.C.	2(1)	4	—	2(2)	—	13	—	20(2)	—	—	1	1	17(1)	—	—	49(3)[f]
Manipur L.A.	1(1)	2	5	—	2	2	—	2(1)	—	—	13	1	2	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	1	2	—	—	—	1(2)	—	—	2(1)	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	2(2)	8	5	—	1	7	12	7	4	—	1	8	4	2	3	71[g]
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	—	24	28	—	26	28	27	58	52	—	19	21	26(29)	26	3	81[h]
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Uttaranchal L.A.	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	5	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	15(15)	22(1)	7(7)	—	1	7(5)	5(1)	3(1)	3	—	1	1	24(14)	1	—	24(1)[(i)]
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	8	9	3	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78[(j)]
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																
Delhi L.A.	—	3	3	1	—	5	—	2	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	5[(k)]
Pondicherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information from State/Union territory Legislatures

(a) Employment Review Committee-1; Act Implementation Committee-2; Committee on Welfare of Women and Children-2; and Committee on OBC & MOBC-1

(b) Question and Calling Attention Committtee-10(3); Committee on State Language-10; Implementation Committtee-9; Nivedan Committee-11(3); Committee on Welfare of Minorities-12; Zila Parishad and Panchayati Raj Committee-11; and Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-10

(c) Implementation Committee-11; Questions and Calling Attention Committee-14; Untaking Question Implementation Committee-6; Woman and Child Welfare Committee-7; Tourism Development Committee-9; Members' Amenities Committee-8; Zila Panchayati/Parishad Committee-5; Internal Resources Committee-8; Compassion and Families' Benefit Committee-11(1); Committee on Zero Hour-6; Youth, Culture and Sports Development Committee-14; Committee on Environment and Pollution-24(2); Aadim Jan Jati Vikas Samiti-18; Scheduled Tribes Language Development Committee-4; and Backward and Weaker Sections Welfare Committee-17

(d) House Committee on Vinivinc-2; Committee on Backward Classes and Minorites-4(1); Committee on Welfare of Women and Children-6; and Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-7

(e) Committee on Welfare of Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes-13(1); Committee on Employment Guarantee Scheme-8(1); Panchayati Raj Committee-13; Women Rights and Welfare Committee-9(1); and Other Backward Classes Committee-6

(f) Committee on Welfare of Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes-13(1); Committee on Employment Guarantee Scheme-8(1); Panchayati Raj Committee-13; Women Rights and Welfare Committee-9(1); and Other Backward Classes Committee-6

(g) Standing Committee(I to X)-41; Ethics Committee-16; House Committee on Women and Child Welfare-4; House Committee on Linguistic Minorities-2; House Committee on NGOs-1; and House Committee on Submissions-7

(h) Committee on Welfare of Women & Children-29; Questions & Reference Committee-25; and Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes-27

(i) Questions & Reference Committee-1; Ethics Committee-2; Committee Relating to Examination of Audit Report of the Local Bodies of the State-10; and Enquiry Committee on Sting Operation-11(1)

(j) Committee on Reference & Questions-11; Committee on Financial and Administrative Delays-15; Committee on Rules Revision-11; Committee on Parliamentary Study-12; Committee on Enquiry of Housing Complaints of UP Legislature-14; Parliamentary and Social Welfare Committee-2; Committee on Control of Irregularities in Development Authorities, Housing Board, Zila Panchayats and Municipal Corporations-10; and Committee on Enquiry of Provincial Electricity Arrangment-3

(k) Committee on Woman and Child welfare-2; Questions and Reference Committee-1; and Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-2

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD

1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of Assent by the President
1	2	3
1.	The National Institute of Fashion Technology Bill, 2006	13.7.2006
2.	The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2006	13.7.2006
3.	The Union Duties of Excise (Electricity) Distribution Repeal Bill, 2006	13.7.2006
4.	The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006	18.8.2006
5.	The Spirituous Preparations (Inter-State Trade and Commerce) Control (Repeal) Bill, 2006	22.8.2006
6.	The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2006	22.8.2006
7.	The Food Safety and Standards Bill, 2006	23.8.2006
8.	The Actuaries Bill, 2006	27.8.2006
9.	The Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2006	27.8.2006
10.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 2006	27.8.2006
11.	The Government Securities Bill, 2006	30.8.2006
12.	The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2006	3.9.2006
13.	The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2006	12.9.2006
14.	The Cantonments Bill, 2006	13.9.2006
15.	The Central Silk Board (Amendment) Bill, 2006	13.9.2006
16.	The Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006	13.9.2006
17.	The Pondicherry (Alternation of Name) Bill, 2006	13.9.2006
18.	The Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2006	25.9.2006
19.	The Produce Cess Laws (Abolition) Bill, 2006	25.9.2006

APPENDIX V

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD

1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Majuli Cultural Landscape Region Bill, 2006
2. The Assam Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2006
3. The Assam Tax on Luxuries (Hotels and Lodging Houses) (Amendment) Bill, 2006
4. The Guwahati Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
5. The Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2006
6. The Guwahati Non-Biodegradable Garbage (Control and Prevention) Bill, 2006
7. The Assam Apartments Construction and Transfer of Ownership Bill, 2006
8. The Assam Health Establishments (Amendment) Bill, 2006
9. The Assam State Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Bill, 2006

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Bihar Sthaniya Skhetra me Upbhog, Bywahar Athwa Bikri Hetu Maalon ke Pravesh par Kar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
2. The Bihar Mulya-barhit kar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
3. The Bihar (Mantryon ke Betan evam Bhatta) Vidheyak, 2006
4. The Bihar Vidhan Mandal (Sadasyon ka Vetan, Bhatta evam Pension) Vidheyak 2006
5. The Bihar Vidhan Mandal (Padadhikariyon ke Vetan evam Bhatta) Vidheyak, 2006
6. The Wakf (Bihar Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
7. The Patna Nagar Nigam (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
8. The Bharatiya Stamps (Bihar Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
9. The Bihar Arajkiya Madhyamik Vidyalaya (Prabandha evam Niyantran Grahan) Vidheyak, 2006
10. The Chanakya Rashtriya Vidhi Vishwavidyalaya, Vidheyak 2006
11. The Bihar Viniyog (Sankhya) Vidheyak, 2006
12. The Bihar Krishi upaj Baazar Nirsan Vidheyak, 2006
13. The Bihar Panchayat Raj (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006

14. The Bihar Apartment Swamitwa Vidheyak, 2006

CHHATTISGARH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Chhattisgarh Krishik Pashu Parariksan, Vidheyak 2004
2. The Chhattisgarh Viniyog (Kramank 3) Vidheyak, 2006
3. The Chhattisgarh uchch Nyayalaya (Khanda Nyayaphith Ko Appeal) Vidheyak, 2006
4. The Chhattisgarh Mulya Samvardhit Kar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
5. The Chhattisgarh Kushabhau Thakre Patrakarita evam Jansanchar Vishwavidyalaya, (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
6. The Sunderlal Sharma (Mukta) Vishwavidyalaya Chhattishgarh (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
7. The Chhattishgarh Swami Vivekananda Takniki Vishwavidyalaya, (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
8. The Chhattisgarh Niji Vishwavidyalaya (Sthapana evam Biniyaman) (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
9. The Chhattisgarh Rajim Kumbh Mela Vidheyak, 2006
10. The Chhattishgarh Dharma Swatantrya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Goa Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2006
2. The Goa Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2006
3. The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2006
4. The Goa Members of the Legislative Assembly (Removal of Disqualification) (Amendment) Bill, 2006
5. The Goa Public Health (Amendment) Bill, 2006
6. The Goa School Education (Amendment) Bill, 2006
7. The Indian Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2006
8. The Goa Value Added Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
9. The Goa Tax on Luxuries (Amendment) Bill, 2006
10. The Goa Entertainment Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2006

JHARKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Jharkhand Viniyog (Sankhya-4) Vidheyak, 2006
2. The Jharkhand Vivah Nibandhan Vidheyak, 2006
3. The Rajendra Ayurbigyan Sansthan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
4. The Jharkhand Vidhan Mandal (Sadasyon ka Vetan, Bhatta aur Pension) (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
5. The Jharkhand Vidhan Mandal Sachetak (Suvidha aur Bhatta) Vidheyak, 2006
6. The Bihar Rajya Adhibakta Kalyan Nidhi Adiniyam, 1983 (Yatha Sansodhit Bihar

Adhibakta Kalyan Nidhi Sanshodhan) Adhiniyam, 1990, Nirsan Vidheyak, 2006

7. The Jharkhand Mulyabridhi Kar Sansodhan, Vidheyak, 2006
8. The Jharkhand Kshetriya Vikas Pradhikar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
9. The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University Vidheyak, 2006
10. The Danda Prakriya Sanhita (Jharkhand Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
11. The Jharkhand Adhividya Parishad (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
12. The Jharkhand Rajya Vishwavidyalaya Sanshodhan Vidheyak, 2006

HARYANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Haryana Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2006
2. The Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya Khanpur Kalan Bill, 2006
3. The Haryana Private Universities Bill, 2006
4. The Haryana Public Premises and Land (Eviction and Rent Recovery) Amendment Bill, 2006
5. The Haryana Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pension of Members) Second Amendment Bill, 2006
6. The Haryana Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2006
7. The Haryana Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2006
8. The Deen Banhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology Murthal Bill, 2006
9. The Haryana Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
10. The Haryana Legislative Assembly (Facilities to Members) Amendment Bill, 2006
11. The Haryana Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2006

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bangalore Development Authority (Second Amendment) Bill, 2005
2. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2006
3. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2006
4. The Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2006
5. The Karnataka Legislature (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 2006

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Bangalore Development Authority (Second Amendment) Bill, 2005
2. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Bill, 2005
3. The Karnataka Legislature (Prevention of Disqualification) (Amendment) Bill, 2006
4. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2006
5. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2006

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2006

2. The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
3. The Bombay Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2006
4. The Maharashtra Private Professional Educational Institutions (Reservation of Seats for Admission of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Bill, 2006
5. The Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2006
6. The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2006
7. The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2006
8. The Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Bill, 2006
9. The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2006

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2006
2. The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2006
3. The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2006
4. The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
5. The Bombay Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2006
6. The Maharashtra Private Professional Educational Institutions (Reservation of Seats for Admission for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Bill, 2006
7. The Maharashtra Tax Laws (Levy, Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2006
8. The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2006
9. The Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Bill, 2006

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Manipur Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Amendment Bill, 2006
2. The Manipur State Commission for Other Backward Classes (Amendment) Bill, 2006

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Nagaland Women Commission Bill, 2006
2. The Nagaland Municipal (First Amendment) Bill, 2006
3. The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University (Nagaland) Bill, 2006
4. The Global Open University (Nagaland) Bill, 2006
5. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2006

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Orissa Marine Fishing (Regulation) Bill, 2006
2. The Orissa Cooperative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
3. The Bihar & Orissa Excise (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 2006
4. The Orissa Special Court Bill, 2006

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Uttar Pradesh Private Professional Education Institutions (Regulation of Admission and Fixation of Fee) Bill, 2006
2. The Uttar Pradesh Admission to Educational Institutions (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Bill, 2006
3. The Uttar Pradesh Public Libraries Bill, 2006
4. The Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Services Commission (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
5. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Second Supplementary 2006-2007) Bill, 2006
6. The Doctor Ram Manohar Lohiya Rashtriya Vidhi Sansthan Uttar Pradesh (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
7. The Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Money-Lending (Amendment) Bill, 2006
8. The Uttar Pradesh Urban Local-Self Government Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2006
9. The Sahara University Uttar Pradesh Bill, 2006
10. The Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2006
11. The Doctor Ram Manohar Lohiya Rashtriya Vidhi Sansthan Uttar Pradesh (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2006
12. The Uttar Pradesh Revenue Code Bill, 2006
13. The Uttar Pradesh Lokayukta and Up-Lokayukts (Amendment) Bill, 2006
14. The Uttar Pradesh Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 2006
15. The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2006
16. The Uttar Pradesh Entertainments and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2006
17. The Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
18. The Uttar Pradesh Legislature (Prevention of Disqualification) (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
19. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Third Supplementary 2006-2007) Bill, 2006
20. The Uttar Pradesh Urban Local-Self Government Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
21. The Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Services Selection Board (Amendment) Bill, 2006
22. The Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Services Selection Board (Second Amendment) Bill, 2006
23. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2006
24. The Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Services Selection Commission (Third Amendment) Bill, 2006

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Uttar Pradesh Admission to Educational Institutions (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Bill, 2006
2. The Uttar Pradesh Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admission and Fixation of Fee) Bill, 2006

APPENDIX VI

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
			UNION GOVERNMENT		
1.	The National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2006	11.9.2006	23.11.2006	—	—
			BIHAR		
1.	The Patna Nagar Nigam (Sanshodhan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	—	—	—	—
2.	The Bihar Arajkiya Madhyamik Vidyalaya (Prabhandan evam Niyantran Grahan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	—	—	—	—
3.	The Chanakya Rashtriya Vidhi Vishwavidyalaya Aadhyadesh, 2006	—	—	—	—
			GOA		
1.	The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	28.4.2006	10.7.2006	25.7.2006	Replaced by Legislation

2.	The Indian Stamp (Goa Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	10.5.2006	10.7.2006	25.7.2006	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Goa Members of Legislative Assembly (Removal of Disqualification) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	15.5.2006	10.7.2006	25.7.2006	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Goa Marine Fishing Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	6.7.2006	13.7.2006	—	—
			HARYANA		
1.	The Haryana Value Added Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	16.6.2006	18.9.2006	20.9.2006	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Haryana Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	17.6.2006	18.9.2006	19.9.2006	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya Khanpur Kalan Ordinance, 2006	18.8.2006	18.9.2006	19.9.2006	Replaced by Legislation
			JHARKHAND		
1.	The Jharkhand Kshetriya Vikas (Sanshodhan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	16.6.2006	18.9.2006	20.9.2006	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Ranchi Nagar Nigam (Sanshodhan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	17.6.2006	18.9.2006	19.9.2006	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Jharkhand Nagarpalika (Sanshodhan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	18.8.2006	18.9.2006	19.9.2006	Replaced by Legislation

4.	The Jharkhand Mulyavardhit (Sanshodhan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	—	—	—	—
			MAHARASHTRA		
1.	The Maharashtra Contingency Fund (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	18.8.2006	—	—	—
2.	The Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	14.9.2006	—	—	—
			ORISSA		
1.	The Orissa Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	30.5.2006	3.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Bihar and Orissa (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	1.7.2006	3.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
			RAJASTHAN		
1.	The Rajasthan Civil Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	26.7.2006	—	4.10.2006	—
			UTTAR PRADESH		
1.	The Uttar Pradesh Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admission and Fixation of Fee) Ordinance, 2006	10.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Uttar Pradesh Admission to Educational Institutions (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Ordinance, 2006	10.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation

3.	The Uttar Pradesh Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	12.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	12.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
5.	The Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Rashtriya Vidhi Sansthan Uttar Pradesh (Sanshodhan) Aadhyadesh, 2006	14.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
6.	The Uttar Pradesh Higher Education (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	25.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation
7.	The Uttar Pradesh Public Libraries (Amendment) Ordinance, 2006	31.7.2006	22.8.2006	—	Replaced by Legislation

APPENDIX VII

A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA (AS ON 5 JANUARY 2007)

States	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI (M)	SP	RJD	DMK	BSP	SS	BJD	CPI	NCP	JD(U)	SAD	PMK	JMM	TRS	TDP	MDMK	LJSP	AIFB
Andhra Pradesh	42	30	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	14	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar	40	3	5	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Chhattisgarh	11	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat	26	12	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana	10	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand	14	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka	28	9	16	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala	20	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	29	3	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra	48	13	11	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	21	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab	13	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	25	4	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	39	10	—	2	—	—	16	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	4	—	—
Tripura	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttaranchal	5	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	80	9	10	—	36	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	42	6	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nominated	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
UNION TERRITORIES																					
A & N Islands	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daman and Diu	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
The NCT of Delhi	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	545	148	128	43	38	23	16	15	12	11	10	10	8	8	6	5	5	4	4	4	3

APPENDIX VII (CONTD.)

A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA (AS ON 5 JANUARY 2007)

States	JD(S)	RLD	RSP	AGP	J&K NC	KC	AIM IM	AITC	BNP	J&K PDP	MNF	MLK SC	NPF	NLP	RPI (A)	SJP (R)	SDF	IND	TOTAL	VACANCIES
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Assam	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	—
Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	1
Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—
Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—
Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	1
Karnataka	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	—
Kerala	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	—
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	2
Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	46	2
Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Orissa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—
Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	1
Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	—
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Uttar Pradesh	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	77	3
West Bengal	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—
Nominated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
UNION TERRITORIES																				
A & N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
The NCT of Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	539	12

Abbreviations used in respect of parties represented in the Lok Sabha:

AGP-Asom Gana Parishad; AIFB-All India Forward Bloc; AIMIM-All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen; AITC-All India Trinamool Congress; BJD-Biju Janata Dal; BJP-Bharatiya Janata Party; BNP-Bharatiya Navshakti Party; BSP-Bahujan Samaj Party; CPI(M)-Communist Party of India (Marxist); CPI-Communist Party of India; DMK-Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; INC-Indian National Congress; IND-Independents; J&KPDP- Jammu & Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party; J&KNC-Jammu & Kashmir National Conference; JD(S)-Janata Dal (Secular); JD(U)-Janata Dal (United); JMM-Jharkhand Mukti Morcha; KC-Kerala Congress; LJSP-Lok Jan Shakti Party; MDMK-Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; MLKSC-Muslim League Kerala State Committee; MNF-Mizo National Front; NCP-Nationalist Congress Party; NLP-National Loktantrik Party; NPF-Nagaland Peoples Front; PMK-Pattali Makkal Katchi; RJD-Rashtriya Janata Dal; RLD-Rashtriya Lok Dal; RPI(A)-Republican Party of India(A); RSP-Revolutionary Socialist Party; SAD-Shiromani Akali Dal; SDF-Sikkim Democratic Front; SJP(R)-Samajwadi Janata Party (Rashtriya); SP-Samajwadi Party; SS-Shiv Sena; TDP-Telugu Desam Party; TRS-Telangana Rashtra Samithi

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (AS ON 9 JANUARY 2007)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI (M)	AIA-DMK	SP	TDP	RJD	BSP	BJD	NCP	JD(U)	*Others	IND	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
STATES																	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	10	—	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	1[a]	—	18	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—
4.	Bihar	16	1	3	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	4	1[b]	—	16	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
6.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
7.	Gujarat	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
8.	Haryana	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3[c]	1	5	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[d]	—	4	—
11.	Jharkhand	6	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—
12.	Karnataka	12	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[e]	2	12	—
13.	Kerala	9	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[f]	—	9	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
15.	Maharashtra	19	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	5[g]	2	19	—
16.	Manipur	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
18.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[h]	—	1	—
19.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[i]	—	1	—
20.	Orissa	10	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	10	—
21.	Punjab	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[j]	—	6	1
22.	Rajasthan	10	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
23.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[k]	—	1	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
24.	Tamil Nadu	18	3	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3[f]	—	18	—
25.	Tripura	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
26.	Uttaranchal	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	31	1	6	—	—	16	—	—	6	—	—	—	2[m]	—	31	—
28.	West Bengal	16	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6[n]	1	16	—
UNION TERRITORIES																	
29.	NCT of Delhi	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
30.	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
31.	Nominated	12	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7[o]	—	10	2
	TOTAL	245	71	49	14	12	16	6	7	6	4	5	5	39	8	242	3

OTHERS

(Break-up of Parties/Groups)

(a) Communist Party of India-1
(b) Samata Party-1
(c) Indian National Lok Dal-3
(d) Jammu and Kashmir National Conference-1; and Peoples' Democratic Party-1
(e) Janata Dal (Secular)-2
(f) Muslim League-2
(g) Shiv Sena-4; and Sadbhavana Party-1
(h) Mizo National Front-1
(i) Nagaland Peoples Front-1
(j) Shiromani Akali Dal-2
(k) Sikkim Democratic Front-1
(l) Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-2; and Pattali Makkal Katchi-1
(m) Rashtriya Lok Dal-1; Expelled from Bahujan Samaj Party-1
(n) All India Trinamool Congress-3; Forward Bloc-2; and Revolutionary Socialist Party-1
(o) Nominated-7

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE / UNION TERRITORY LEGISLATURES

State/Union territories	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI(M)	CPI	NCP	BSP	Janata Dal (U)	Janata Dal (S)	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A. (30.9.2006)	60	33	9	—	—	2	—	—	—	1[a]	13	59	1
Assam L.A. (1.11.2006)	125	53	10	2	1	1	—	—	—	36[b]	22	125	1
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C. (1.11.2006)	75	3	14	2	3	—	—	15	—	13[c]	22	72*	2
Chhattisgarh L.A. (1.11.2006)	91	34	51	—	—	1	2	—	—	1[d]	—	89	2
Goa L.A. (1.11.2006)	40	18	17	—	—	2	—	—	—	2[e]	1	40	—
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A. (1.11.2006)	90	66	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	9[f]	10	89*	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A. (1.11.2006)	82	8	30	—	—	1	—	6	—	33[g]	3	81*	—
Karnataka L.A. (2.11.2006)	225	64	79	1	—	—	—	5	57	4[h]	12	222*	2
Karnataka L.C. (22.6.2006)	75	40	14	—	—	—	—	3	14	—	4	75	—

Kerala L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A. (1.11.2006)	289	73	54	3	—	71	—	—	—	67[l]	19	287	2
Maharashtra L.C. (1.11.2006)	78	22	13	—	—	19	—	—	—	13[l]	10	77	1
Manipur L.A. (30.9.2006)	60	32	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	18[k]	—	59	1
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A. (1.11.2006)	60	16	7	—	—	—	—	2	—	31[f]	4	60	—
Orissa L.A. (1.11.2006)	147	38	32	1	1	—	—	—	—	67[m]	8	147	—
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A. (30.9.2006)	200	54	122	1	—	—	2	2	—	5[n]	13	199	1
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttaranchal L.A. (1.11.2006)	71	37	19	—	—	—	7	—	—	8[e]	—	71	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A. (1.11.2006)	404	15	83	1	—	—	67	—	—	211[p]	16	393	11
Uttar Pradesh L.C. (1.11.2006)	100	3	24	—	—	—	13	—	—	56[q]	4	100	—
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

UNION TERRITORY													
Delhi L.A. (1.11.2006)	70	47	20	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	70	—
Pondicherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

• Excluding Speaker/Chairman

a) Arunachal Congress-2

b) Asom Gana Parishad-24; Assam United Democratic Front-9; Autonomous State Demand Committee-1; Asom Gana Parishad (Pragatisheel)-1; and Loko Sanmilon-1

c) Rashtriya Janata Dal-12; and Lok Jan Shakti Party-1

d) Nominated-1

e) United Goans Democratic Party-1; and Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-1

f) Indian National Lok Dal-9

g) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-17; Rashtriya Lok Dal-7; All Jharkhand Students Union-2; United Goans Democratic Party-2; All India Forward Bloc-2; Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)-1; and Nominated-1

h) Kannada Chalavali Vatal Paksha-1; Kannada Naadu Paksha-1; Republican Party of India-1; and Nominated-1

i) Shiv Sena-56; Jan Surajya Shakti-4; Peasants and Workers' Party-2; Bharip Bahujan Mahasangh-1; Republican Party of India (A)-1; Swatantra Bharat Paksha-1; Aakhil Bharatiya Sena-1; and Nominated-1

j) Shiv Sena-9; Peasants and Workers' Party-1; and Peoples' Republican Party-1; Republican Party of India (A)-1; and Lokbharti-1

k) Federal Party of Manipur-13; Manipur Peoples' Party-2; Manipur State Congress Party-2; and Manipur National Conference-1

l) Nagaland Peoples Front-31

m) Biju Janata Dal-61; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-4; and Orissa Gana Parishad-2

n) Indian National Lok Dal-3; Rajasthan Samajic Nayaya Manch-1; and Lok Jan Shakti Party-1

o) Uttarkhand Party-4; Nominated-1; and Others-3

p) Samajwadi Party-152; Lok Tantrik Bahujan Dal-33; Rashtriya Lok Dal-15; Uttar Pradesh Lok Tantrik Congress-2; Akhil Bharatiya Congress-1; Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha-1; Nominated-1; and Unattached-6

q) Samajwadi Party-39; Rashtriya Lok Dal-6; Samajwadi Janata Dal (Rashtriya)-1; and Sikchhak Dal (Non-Political)-10

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ANNEXURE

ENTITLEMENT OF SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER FACILITIES TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

(As per MSA Act, 1954 and rules made thereunder)

1. Salary

Rs.16,000/- per month.

2. Daily Allowance

Rs.1,000/- per day for the period of residence on duty. Daily allowance will be paid to a Member only when he signs the register maintained for the purpose.

3. Constituency Allowance

Rs.20,000/- per month.

4. Office Expense Allowance

Rs.20,000/- per month out of which Rs.4,000/- is for meeting expense on stationery items etc., Rs.2,000/- for franking the letters and Lok Sabha may pay upto Rs.10,000/- per month to a computer literate person as may be engaged by a Member for obtaining Secretarial assistance in Delhi and upto Rs.4,000 to another person as engaged by him in his constituency to look after the work.

5. Travelling Allowance

(i) **Forward Journey**–For attending a Session of a House of Parliament or meeting of a Committee or for the purpose of attending to any other business connected with his duties as a Member from usual place of residence of the Member to the place of duty.

(a) By rail–One first class and one second class fare.

(b) By air–One and one-fourth air fare of the airlines in which he travels.

(c) By road–Rupees thirteen per km.

Member is paid a minimum amount of one hundred and twenty rupees of the journeys he performs by road in Delhi from and to an aerodrome.

Road mileage is paid to the Member only when the places are not connected by Superfast Express/Mail train.

The member whose usual place of residence is within the radius of 300 kms. from Delhi is entitled to receive road mileage even if the place is connected by superfast/express/ mail train.

The members representing north-eastern states are entitled to road mileage from their usual place of residences to the nearest airport even though the places are connected by superfast/express/mail train.

(ii) **Return Journey**–After attending a Session, Committee meeting or any other business connected with his duties as such Member from the place of duty to the usual place of residence same as 5(1) above.

(iii) **Air Journey**–Thirty-four single air journeys during a year to be availed of during Session/Inter-session with the spouse or any number of companions or relatives. The newly elected member may also avail of the journey before the publication of Notification by Election Commission. **The spouse/companion can travel alone eight times in a year to meet the member.** Any journey performed by the spouse, companions or relatives shall be added in computing the limit of 34 air journeys. The balance of unused air journeys shall be carried over to the following year. In case a member performs more than 34 air journeys in a year, he is allowed to adjust not exceeding eight such journeys from the 34 air journeys available for the next year.

6. Rail Travel Facilities

(a) *Railway Pass*–One free non transferable first class air-conditioned or executive class of any train pass which entitled him to travel at any time by any railway in India;

(b) One free non-transferable air-conditioned two tier railway pass for one person to accompany the Member when he travels by rail;

(c) For Spouse–

(i) One free non-transferable railway pass to travel in first class air conditioned or executive class in **any train, and if travelled by air, an amount equal to the air fare**, from the usual place of residence of a Member to Delhi and back once during every session and twice in Budget Session but not exceeding 8 journeys in a year.

(ii) The spouse is also entitled to travel in first class air-conditioned or executive class in all the trains **with the Member** from any place in India to any other place in India. A member having no spouse is entitled to accompany with any other person in lieu of spouse in any train in first class AC or executive class from any place in India to any other place in India in addition to the facility already available to him in respect of one companion in AC-II tier.

7. Accommodation

(a) Members who come to Delhi prior to publication of Notification by the Election Commission for constituting new Lok Sabha are entitled to transit accommodation.

(b) Accommodation in the form of a flat is free throughout the term of office to a member. However, licence fee is charged on bungalow.

(c) Tiles in kitchen and bathroom as demanded and the facility of washing of sofa covers and curtains after every 3 months are provided free of cost to members.

(d) Furniture to be made available free of charge at the residence so allotted to the MPs within the monetary ceiling of Rs.60,000/- in respect of durable items and Rs.15,000/- for non-durable items. The rental for additional items of furniture are charged on the depreciated value of furniture.

8. Water and Electricity

4000 Kl. of water and 50,000 units of Electricity (25,000 units measured on lights meter and 25,000 units measured on power meter or pooled together) per annum beginning from 1st January of every year is supplied free of cost at the residence allotted to a member in Delhi/ New Delhi or to a member who is residing in private accommodation in Delhi.

The Unutilised units of electricity and water in kilolitres are carried over to the subsequent years and any excess consumption of electricity and water units in a particular are adjusted from the units of electricity and water in kilolitres available to him for the next year.

In the event of resignation or completion of term or death of a member, he or his family is entitled to consume the units of electricity and water available for that particular year within a period of one month from the date of such resignation or completion of term or death of such member.

9. Telephone Facilities

(i) A member is entitled to have two telephones without payment of installation and rental charges, one at his residence or office in Delhi and the other at his usual place of residence or a place selected by him in his constituency or the State in which he resides. 50,000 local calls during a year are free to a member on each of the two telephones. However, Chairman of a Parliamentary Committee is exempted from payment of any charges for local calls made from the telephone installed at his residence in Delhi/New Delhi.

(ii) Each member is also entitled to have one additional telephone without payment of installation and rental charges either at his residence in Delhi/New Delhi or at his usual place of residence or at the place selected by him within the State in which his constituency is or in the State in which he resides and 50,000 free local calls during a year are allowed on the telephone for **Internet connectivity purposes**.

(iii) The above-mentioned 50,000 free local calls admissible on each telephone can be clubbed together which comes to 1,50,000 local calls in a year.

(iv) A member may use **any number of telephones** for availing the above-mentioned 1,50,000 free local calls subject to the condition that the telephones are in the name of member and the installation and rental charges of additional telephones are borne by the member himself.

(v) Every member is also entitled to one mobile phone connection of MTNL and another mobile phone connection of MTNL/ BSNL or any private mobile operator, in case MTNL/BSNL services are not available, with national roaming facility for utilization in the constituency and the calls made from these telephones may be adjusted from the above-mentioned 1,50,000 calls available to him on three telephones. However, the registration and rental charges for private mobile phone connection are borne by the member himself.

(vi) In case of a member makes calls in excess of admissible free local calls in a year, the excess calls can be adjusted from the calls available to him on three telephones for the next year. Further, the unutilized telephone calls of a year are carried over to the subsequent years till the seat of a member becomes vacant.

(vii) A member is also entitled to avail broadband facility from

MTNL/BSNL on any one of the above-mentioned three telephones subject to the condition that the Government may pay up to Rs.1,500 per month towards the charges of this facility directly to MTNL/BSNL.

10. Conveyance Advance

Rs.1,00,000/- advance for the purchase of a conveyance. Recovery of the said advance together with 11.5% interest thereon shall be made from the salary bill of the member in not more than sixty equal monthly instalments which shall not extend beyond tenure of his membership.

11. Medical

Members of Parliament are entitled to same medical facilities as are available to the officers of Central Civil Services, Class-I under Central Government Health Scheme.

SPECIAL FACILITIES TO PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED MEMBERS

12. A member who, in the opinion of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha or Speaker, Lok Sabha, is physically incapacitated shall be entitled to:

(a) **By Air:** One additional air fare for the accompanied person.

(b) **By Rail**: A companion in the same class in which he travels in lieu of the AC-II tier class railway pass.

(c) **By Road:** One road mileage.

In case of a physically incapacitated member who cannot perform journey by rail or air, he is entitled to road mileage for the entire journey performed by him by road.

FACILITIES TO MEMBERS OF PRE-MATURELY DISSOLVED LOK SABHA

13. If a Lok Sabha is dissolved pre-maturely, the Members of the dissolved Lok Sabha are entitled to consume the unutilized telephone calls, electricity units and water from the date of dissolution of the Lok Sabha to the constitution of subsequent Lok Sabha. Further, if a Member is re-elected in subsequent Lok Sabha, he is entitled to adjust the excess telephone calls, electricity/water units consumed during the intervening period from the quota for the first year of the subsequent Lok Sabha.

FACILITIES TO EX-MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

1. Pension

Every person who has served as a member of the Provisional Parliament or either House of Parliament for **any period** is entitled to a pension of eight thousand rupees per mensem *w.e.f.* 15 September 2006. Where any person has served for a period exceeding five years, he shall be paid an additional pension of rupees eight hundred per mensem for every year in excess of five years. For the purpose of calculation of years for determination of additional pension, the period of nine months or more is treated as one complete year.

2. Family Pension to Spouse/Dependant

The spouse or dependant of a deceased Member is entitled to receive family pension equal to 50% of the pension otherwise admissible to the deceased Member at the time of his death for the remainder period of life of the spouse. The dependant will get family pension subject to fulfilment of conditions as stipulated in section 2(aa) of the MSA Act. The spouse/dependant of those deceased ex-MPs who had served either House of Parliament prior to 15 September 2006 shall also be entitled to family pension on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to the spouse/dependant of a Member of Parliament.

If the spouse/dependant is entitled to any pension under MSA Act, she/he will not be entitled to receive family pension.

No person shall be entitled to claim arrears of family pension for the period prior to 15 September 2006.

3. Free Rail Travel Facility

Under Section 8AA of the MSA Act, an Ex-Member of Parliament is entitled to travel in any train in AC-II tier class along with a companion **OR** in AC-I class if travels alone, on the strength of Ex-MP Identity Card issued to them by Lok Sabha Secretariat.

4. Free Steamer Facility

A former Member of Parliament who had represented Andaman and Nicobar Islands or Lakshadweep is entitled to travel by the highest class of accommodation in any steamer sailing between the A&N Islands or Lakshadweep, as the case may be, and from Islands to Mainland in India on the strength of authorisation issued to them by Lok Sabha Secretariat.

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